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CONTENTS.

Trial of Mr HASTINGS 105
Treatment of SLAVES in a voyage from Guinea to the Weſt Indies 110
Diſtreſs of a WELSH CURATE 112.
Proceedings of the BOARD of CONTROUL, &c. relative to the ſix regiments ſent to India 113.
Account of a MOVING BOG in Ireland 118.
Further particulars of the late ATHENIAN STUART 119.
PARLIAMENT. Impeachment of Sir E. Impey 121. American intercourſe bill 124. On a libellous pamphlet 125.
NEW BOOKS. Tranſactions of the Edinburgh Royal Society 127. London Medical Journal 131. Gilpin on Pictureſque Beauty 133. Court and character of Protectreſs Joan, &c. 133. — 137.
Letters on EDUCATION continued 137.
Anecdotes of A. SELKIRK 138
On the MOISTURE abſorbed by Wool, Cotton, Linen, &c 140.
Inſtance of a life preſerved after falling into a COAL-PIT 141.
Cure of a CANCER by cleavers 141.
Obſervations on the STATUTES 142.
POETRY. Occaſional prologue for the Duke of Richmond's theatre 145. Lines written at the hermitages at Montſerrat in Spain ib. Fragments imitated from the Greek, by Mr Cumberland 146. From broken-hearted Damon ib. Verſes by Dr Johnſon and Mrs Piozzi ib. Sonnet on an air-balloon, by Mrs Piozzi ib.
HISTORICAL AFFAIRS. Italy 147. France ib. America 148.
— England: Seſſions at the Old Bailey 149. Duplicates of coins, &c. in the Britiſh Muſeum to be ſold ib. Bank dividend increaſed ib. London Hoſpitals 150.
— Scotland: Pier at St Andrew's damaged 150. Deciſion on a queſtion relating to a fictitious vote ib. Trials 151. Remarkable preſervation of a woman and child ib. Battle between Newhaven and Preſtonpans fiſhers 152. G. Mackerrachar executed for forgery ib.
LISTS, &c. 152. — 156.

Trial of WARREN HASTINGS, Eſq; late Governor-General of Bengal, before the High Court of Parliament, in Weſtminſter Hall, for High Crimes and Miſdemeanours.

FIRST DAY. *Wedneſday, Feb.* 13. 1788.

SIR Peter Burrell, (Lord High Chamberlain by deputation), apprehenſive of the conſequences that might be occaſioned by a mixture of carriages and immenſe crowds of ſpectators on foot, in and about the ſtreets leading to Weſtminſter Hall, and the two Houſes of Parliament, on a day when a Governor General of the Britiſh dominions in Aſia was to be brought to trial, had taken the wiſe precaution of applying for a military force in aid of the civil power, which would have been inſufficient to maintain order and regularity on this extraordinary occaſion.

The precaution was neceſſary. For, ſo early as eight o'clock in the morning, the number of carriages paſſing through Parliament Street was immenſe, and continued to be ſo till near twelve.

In conſequence of this application, detachments from the Horſe Grenadier and Foot Guards, to the number of near 400, attended; and, through their activity, and the judicious manner in which they were ſtationed, confuſion, and the accidents that are uſually inſeparable from it, were much prevented.

On entering Weſtminſter Hall, it was impoſſible not to be ſtruck with the ſymmetry of the building erected for the trial, the convenient diſpoſition of its parts, and the appearance of awful grandeur through the whole *.

Soon after eleven o'clock, the members of the Committee appointed to manage the impeachment on the part of the Commons, entered Weſtminſter Hall in full dreſs, and ſeated themſelves in the boxes prepared for their reception. Mr Burke led the proceſſion.

The other members followed by degrees; as their names were called over in their own Houſe they departed from it, and repaired to the ſeats deſtined for them in the Hall. In the centre of the front row was an armed chair for the Speaker.

A little before twelve o'clock her Majeſty entered; ſhe did not appear in the box prepared for her, but in a part of the Duke of Newcaſtle's gallery, which was divided from the reſt by bars and ſide curtains. A large chair of ſtate was placed for her.

On her Majeſty's right, ſat the Princeſs Royal and Princeſs Auguſta; on her left, the Princeſs Eliſabeth and Princeſs Mary.

At twelve o'clock began the proceſſion of the Lords from their own Houſe; the march was ſolemn, ſuited to the character of judges and the occaſion which had impoſed upon them that venerable character.

The Peers were preceded by
The Lord Chancellor's attendants,—two and two.
The Clerks of the Houſe of Lords.
The Maſters in Chancery, two and two.
The Judges.
Serjeants Adair and Hill.
The Yeoman Uſher of the Black Rod.
Sir Francis Molyneux, Gentleman Uſher of the Black Rod.
Two Heralds.
The Lords Barons, two and two.
The Lords Biſhops, two and two.
The Lords Viſcounts, two and two.
The Lords Earls, two and two.
The Lords Marquiſſes, two and two.
The Lords Dukes, two and two.
The Mace-Bearer.
The Lord Chancellor, with his train borne.
(All in their Parliament robes.)

When the Peers were all ſeated, the Lord Chancellor aſked leave for the Judges to be covered.

At twelve the Court was opened, and the Serjeant at Arms, with a very audible voice, made the uſual proclamation; after which, in old blunt Engliſh, he ſummoned "Warren Haſtings, Eſq; to come forth in Court to ſave thee and thy bail, otherwiſe the recognizance of thou and thy bail will be forfeited."

Mr Haſtings immediately appeared at the bar with his two ſureties, Mr Sullivan and Mr Sumner, and immediately dropped on his knees; when the Lord Chancellor ſignified that he might riſe.

After Mr Haſtings appeared at the bar, a proclamation as follows was made:

"Whereas Charges of High Crimes and Miſdemeanours have been exhibited by the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes in Parliament aſſembled, in the name of themſelves, and of all the Commons of Great Britain, againſt Warren Haſtings, Eſq; all perſons concerned are to take notice, that he now ſtands on his trial, and they may come forth in order to make good the ſaid charges."

Proclamation being made, the Lord Chancellor

* The temporary building for the trial was arranged in this manner.—The Chancellor at the upper end from the Hall gate, under a ſtate canopy—the Judges—and Maſters in Chancery below them—Heralds, and attending Officers about them. The Royal Box was on the right hand of the Chancellor—on his left, the box for the Princes. Dukes, Marquiſſes, and Viſcounts, were below the latter—the Biſhops on the ſide with the former—the Earls and Barons ſat on ſix rows between them. The Priſoner, near the door, fronted the Chancellor—His Counſel on his right hand—the Evidence between the counſel for the Proſecution, on his left. Committee of the Houſe of Commons behind their Counſel—the ſhort hand Writer—Black Rod, &c. on the other ſide. The Houſe of Commons—Foreign Miniſters—and Duke of Newcaſtle, who ſtill retains a gallery, filled the lefr nde of the entrance.—On the right hand were Peereſſes, Board of Works, and Lord Salisbury. The ſeats for Peers tickets adjoined the Court of Chancery and the King's Bench. The oppoſite end of the Hall, had on one ſide ſix more rows for Peereſſes—on the other, the remainder of the Houſe of Commons—The Lord High Chamberlain's box was between them.

Mr Haſtings's counſel were Meſſ. Law Plomer, and Dallas;—for the Commons, Dr Scott and Dr Lawrence; Meſſ. Mansfield, Pigot, Burke, and Douglas.

Chancellor roſe, and addreſſed the priſoner as follows:—

"Warren Haſtings,

You are called upon, after every expedient allowance, for your defence. You have had bail: you have counſel. Much time alſo has been granted you—becoming well the circumſtances of your caſe.

For the matter in the charges is moſt momentous, and the dates are remote ſince the occurrences in thoſe charges alledged againſt you are ſaid to have been committed.

Theſe advantages you muſt underſtand, while you feel.—You are to deem them not an indulgence of this Houſe—but the fair claim of right—a conceſſion of nothing but what you have in common with all around you—what every Britiſh ſubject may aſk, and every Britiſh tribunal muſt allow.

Conduct your defence, therefore, in a manner that may befit your ſtation, and the magnitude of the charges againſt you.—Eſtimate rightly the high character of thoſe you have to anſwer—the Commons of Great Britain!—who, at once, perhaps, attach likelihood to doubt—and enforce authority, certainly, on accuſation."

To which Mr Haſtings made almoſt verbatim the following anſwer:

"My Lords,

I am come to this high tribunal equally impreſſed with a confidence in my own integrity, and in the juſtice of the Court before which I ſtand."

The Clerks of the Houſe then proceeded to read a charge, and an anſwer to it alternately, till they got through ſeven; by that time it was half an hour after five o'clock, and nearly dark.

The Marquis of Stafford then moved, that their Lordſhips ſhould adjourn (till to-morrow) to the Houſe of Peers. The motion was carried without oppoſition. The priſoner was withdrawn from the bar, and their Lordſhips returned to their Houſe in the ſame order in which they had left it, a Herald having called upon each claſs of Lords in turn, and no claſs ſtirred till it was called.—"He called firſt, My Lords Barons;" next, "My Lords Biſhops;" then, "My Lords Viſcounts;" next, "My Lords Earls;" afterwards, "My Lords Marquiſſes;" and, finally, "My Lords Dukes."

SECOND DAY. *Thurſday, Feb.* 14.

The Court proceeded to read the charges and anſwers, the whole of which were finiſhed at half paſt four o'clock, when their Lordſhips adjourned.

THIRD DAY *Friday, Feb* 15

The anxiety to hear Mr Burke's opening ſpeech occaſioned a very crowded houſe. At half after eleven the committee of the Houſe of Commons, with Mr Burke at their head, came into the gallery; and a few minutes after the Peers entered. There were preſent, Barons 54, Biſhops 17, Earls, Marquiſſes, and Viſcounts, 68, Dukes 12, Judges 9, Princes of the blood 4, in all 164. The Court being ſeated, and proclamation made, Mr Haſtings was ſurrendered by his bail, and the Lord Chancellor demanded who appeared in behalf of the Commons to ſubſtantiate the charges

Mr Burke immediately roſe, and made his obedience to the Court, and at this moment every eye was rivetted upon him. "He ſtood forth, he ſaid, at the command of the Commons of Great Britain, as the accuſer of Warren Haſtings."

Mr Burke then ſtopped for above a minute, at the end of which he reſumed, and continued his ſpeech for two hours and a half. It was grave and temperate; but was pathetic and affecting. Every expreſſion and ſentiment was appropriate; and though in the progreſs he led the ignorant to the moſt familiar acquaintance with the origin of the crimes and the evils of India, he aſtoniſhed the moſt knowing with the new aſpect which he gave to the whole, after it had been ſo long agitated and ſo thoroughly diſcuſſed.

He apoſtrophiſed the tribunal before which he ſtood—congratulated his country on poſſeſſing ſo powerful an inſtrument of juſtice, and ſo authoritative a corrector of abuſe, and hoped that no corruptions would ever taint, and no ſocieties of ſpecial pleading and Old Bailey prevarication be able to undermine it.

He then opened the proceedings with a very accurate detail of the riſe of the Eaſt-India Company, from the time when they were inveſted with the military government in the reign of Charles II. to that when the two contending companies were united under Queen Anne. He briefly ſtated the progreſs of their various ſettlements, from the firſt debarkation on that peninſula, until 1756, when they were inveſted with the Dewanee of Bengal. From thence he paſſed to a deſcription of the manners and ſituation of the natives of Hindoſtan,

which was admirably calculated to inform the Court how far their manners were deranged, and their ſituation affected by the misfortune of European connections. The character of their morality was, before that period, as ſublimely attractive as their manners were innocent and faſcinating.—Having dwelt for a conſiderable time on thoſe and ſeveral other collateral topics, Mr Burke was ſo fatigued as to be under the neceſſity of requeſting the indulgence of the Court, and that they would ſuſpend any further proceedings for the preſent, which was granted.

Fourth Day. *Saturday, Feb.* 16.

Mr Burke reſumed his introductory addreſs. The æra, he obſerved, of Europeans firſt landing in Hindoſtan, was not leſs remarkable than it might have been glorious, if proper meaſures had been purſued; if the diſcoveries of a more enlightened part of the globe had been communicated to its innocent inhabitants; and if the reformed Chriſtianity of this iſland had been properly inculcated. But this unfortunately was not done. In the place of friendly communication, the traces of European acceſs were marked with treachery and rapine. Thoſe who firſt advanced, had undoubtedly to paſs over a vaſt river, with the depth of which they were wholly unacquainted; but by frequent practice, a bridge was laid, "over which the lame might paſs, and the blind might grope their way." The arts of plunder might have been ſuppoſed to have reached their height under the command of Lord Clive, but when that nobleman returned to Europe, it apeared that he left an abundant crop of ſucceſſors behind. All theſe too were inured to the practices of rapine, and encouraged to ſuch a degree by repeated ſucceſs, that there was not a captain of a band of ragged ſepoys who did not look to the depoſition of a Subah, and the plunder of a province.

Mr Burke then proceeded to illuſtrate theſe general poſitions, by entering into a detailed account of the tranſactions in India, from 1760 to the year 1774, when Mr Haſtings returned to India in the character of preſident of the ſupreme council. He dwelt at large on the ſeveral revolutions which took place in that period, when, by the intervention of the Company's troops, the ſovereignty was tranſferred from Sujah Dowlah to Meer Jaffier, and again from Meer Jaffier to his ſon-in-law, Coſſim Alley Cawn. In the latter of theſe, Mr Haſtings, who was then reſident at the Durbar, had been employed. Treachery, he ſaid, was found neceſſary to effectuate the purpoſes of the Engliſh, and therefore the aſſiſtance of Warren Haſtings was eſſentially requiſite. He dwelt alſo at length on the oppreſſion of Mahomed Reza Cawn, the famine which ſucceeded, and the events in general which took place before the appointment of the ſupreme council.

On ſpeaking of the appointment and character of Mr Haſtings, the conduct of this gentleman, he ſaid, had been diſtinguiſhed for an adherence, not to the general principles which actuate mankind, but to a kind of geographical morality—a ſet of principles ſuited only to a particular climate, ſo that what was peculation and tyranny in Europe, loſt both its eſſence and its name in India. The nature of things changed, in the opinion of Mr Haſtings. But this doctrine, he hoped, would now no longer be advanced. It was the duty of a Britiſh Governor to enforce Britiſh laws; to correct the opinions and practices of the people, not to conform his opinion to their practice. Mr Burke ſpoke for three hours and a quarter, and ſeemed greatly exhauſted. There were preſent 173 Peers.

Fifth Day. *Monday, Feb.* 18.

Mr Burke reſumed his ſpeech. He ſaid, that the government of Mr Haſtings was founded in bribery and corruption, that his adminiſtration was one continued ſcene of peculation. Nundcomar, a man of high rank, had become the accuſer of Mr Haſtings; but he was ſoon taken off by a proſecution for felony. But Nundcomar was not the only accuſer; if every thing that man had ſaid of Mr Haſtings had been ſcandalouſly falſe, ſtill it appeared upon the oath of one of the moſt illuſtrious ladies or princeſſes in Bengal, that Mr Haſtings had received from her, or her agents, a bribe of 40,000l. Sterling. This oath, and this charge of peculation, were upon record in the archives of the Eaſt-India Company.

There was alſo evidence of a bribe of 40,000l. more, received for a judgement pronounced by Mr Haſtings, in a cauſe wherein the half-brother of a deceaſed Rajah, and an adopted ſon of the ſame Rajah, were concerned; they both claimed the inheritance of the deceaſed, which

which was of immenſe value; for he had died poſſeſſed of a tract of land equal in extent to all the northern counties of England, Yorkſhire included.

Mr Haſtings having reaſon to apprehend that the inquiry inſtituted by parliament into delinquencies on the coaſt of Coromandel would at laſt reach Bengal, he ſuddenly had recourſe to an expedient for ſcreening himſelf from the reſentment of his conſtituents, by making them gainers by his peculation. Finding himſelf on the eve of detection, he paid into the Company's treaſury a vaſt ſum of money which he had received contrary to law; but then he ſaid he did not receive it for his own uſe, but for that of the Company. However, there was in this inſtance a circumſtance that ſeemed to contradict his aſſertion, "that he had received the money for the uſe of the Company:" it was this;—When he paid the money into the treaſury at Calcutta, he took bonds for it; ſo that, in fact, the Company, to whom this money was ſaid to belong, was made debtor to Mr Haſtings for the full amount of it. On his being queſtioned at home by the court of directors, and aſked why he had taken bonds for money not his own, his anſwer was, "That he did not know; he could not tell at that diſtance of time (leſs than three years); it might be to prevent the curious at Calcutta from being acquainted with the proceedings of the ſtate; that he ought not to be preſſed now for an account of motives which he no longer remembered, and of which he could not give any account now, as his papers were in India."

Peculation ſlept for ſome time, whilſt Mr Haſtings had a majority of the council againſt him. But Gen. Clavering and Col. Monſon having been removed by death, and Mr Francis, haraſſed and tired of his ſituation, having reſigned, the council then conſiſted of only Mr Haſtings and Mr Wheler; and the former having a caſting voice, had in his own perſon a majority in the council; or, in other words, the whole government of India was veſted in himſelf alone. —Then it was that he reſolved to open a-new the channels of peculation. Six provincial councils had been eſtabliſhed for the collection and management of the public revenue; but theſe councils he aboliſhed, and in their room eſtabliſhed one ſingle council, under whoſe management was placed the adminiſtration of the whole revenues of the kingdoms of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa. This new council he compoſed entirely of his own creatures and favourites; but as it was neceſſary they ſhould have for their ſecretary ſome native, acquainted with the laws and cuſtoms of the country, he appointed one who was entirely devoted to him.—This was the famous or rather infamous Congo Burwant Sing. Of this man there were not two opinions; all the friends as well as the enemies of Mr Haſtings agreeing, that he was the moſt atrocious villain that India ever produced.

Next in infamy to Congo Burwant Sing, and ſecond only to him in villany, was Devi Sing; one of the moſt ſhocking monſters that ever ſtained the page of hiſtory. He was admitted at a time when he was a bankrupt, and owed 210,000l. to farm the revenue of a very large diſtrict. Here Mr Burke went into a minute relation of the enormities of Devi Sing, for purpoſes of rapacity and plunder; but it is impoſſible to give an idea of the ſavage picture which he exhibited to the aſtoniſhed audience. The cruelties practiſed on the helpleſs people, ſo ſhocking to humanity, to modeſty, and to every tender and manly feeling, convulſed and agitated the whole aſſembly. At the concluſion of this part of his ſpeech, in which his deſcriptions were extremely vivid, harrowing, and horrific, Mr Burke dropped his head upon his hand a few minutes. He then called upon their Lordſhips to prevent the effects of the divine indignation upon the Britiſh empire, by bringing to juſtice the man who could employ ſo infernal an agent. Mr Burke was proceeding, when he was ſeized with a cramp in his ſtomach, and was diſabled from going on. The Court adjourned at three o'clock.

SIXTH DAY. *Tueſday, Feb.* 19.

Mr Burke roſe, and proceeded upon the remaining part of the charges. At the concluſion, he made a moſt ſolemn appeal to the honour, the dignity, the juſtice, and the humanity of the Court, to enter impartially into the great cauſe which was before them, and to determine accordingly.

"I charge (cried he) Warren Haſtings, in the name of the Commons of England, here aſſembled, with high crimes and miſdemeanours!—I charge him with fraud, abuſe, treachery, and robbery!—

I charge him with cruelties unheard of, and devaſtations almoſt without a name! —I charge him with having ſcarcely left in India —what will prove ſatisfaction for his guilt!

And now (added he) I addreſs myſelf to this aſſembly, with the moſt perfect reliance on the juſtice of this High Court. Amongſt you, I ſee a venerable and religious band, whoſe province and whoſe duty it is to venerate that government which is eſtabliſhed in piety and mercy: To them, what muſt have been the principles of Mr Haſtings? Amongſt you, I ſee the Judges of England, the deliverers of law founded on equal juſtice: To them, what muſt have been the uſurpations, the tyranny, the extortions of Warren Haſtings? Amongſt you, I deſcry an illuſtrious and virtuous train of Nobles, whoſe forefathers have fought and died for the conſtitution! men who do even leſs honour to their children, than thoſe children do to them, who are here aſſembled to guard that conſtitution which they have received: From them, what muſt the violator of all forms and conſtitutions deſerve? With one voice they will encourage this impeachment, which I here ſolemnly maintain.

I impeach, therefore, Warren Haſtings, in the name of our holy religion, which he has diſgraced.—I impeach him in the name of the Engliſh conſtitution, which he has violated and broken.—I impeach him in the name of Indian millions, whom he has ſacrificed to injuſtice.—I impeach him in the name, and by the beſt rights of human nature, which he has ſtabbed to the heart. And I conjure this High and Sacred Court to let not theſe pleadings be heard in vain!"

Mr Fox then roſe, and ſtated to their Lordſhips, that he was directed by the committee to ſubmit the mode in which they meant to proceed, which was, to open the firſt charge, then to call the witneſſes to corroborate the ſame, then to permit the counſel for the priſoner to ſpeak to that charge, and to examine witneſſes, then the managers to reply, and their Lorſhips to decide upon it. And to proceed on each charge in like manner.

The above method being ſtrongly objected to by the counſel for Mr Haſtings, was ordered to be taken into conſideration by their Lordſhips on the 21ſt, and the Court adjourned.

This buſineſs being taken into conſideration by their Lordſhips on the 21ſt, the Lord Chancellor ſpoke for ſome time againſt the mode propoſed by the committee.

Lord Coventry wiſhed to give the priſoner every advantage the law afforded.

The Earl of Abingdon ſaid, if a divinity was to be tried in the manner propoſed by the managers, he muſt be convicted.

Lord Loughborough contended in favour of trying the charges ſeparate, or at leaſt reducing them into ſuch claſſes as might render the vaſt complicated matter eaſy to be comprehended.

Lord Stormont aſſerted, that the defendant was intitled, by the immutable and eternal laws of juſtice, to make his defence in any mode he pleaſed.

The Duke of Norfolk contended, that as the Commons could, at their pleaſure, bring up freſh articles of impeachment, ariſing out of the evidence, it was more manly to give into their propoſitions in the firſt inſtance.

Earl Stanhope, in a ſpeech of conſiderable length, declared, that he was averſe to carrying on the trial article by article; and likewiſe he thought it highly improper to determine all the charges together. He therefore wiſhed a medium might be ſtruck out, which was to claſs the crimes, viz. all the acts of cruelty under one head. In like manner the charges of corruption, &c. &c. His Lordſhip concluded with moving, "That the managers for the Commons of Great Britain be directed neither to proceed upon the whole of the charges, nor upon their accuſations article by article, but to proceed upon the criminating allegations one by one." Withdrawn.

Queſtion was afterwards put, to agree with the propoſition as ſtated by the managers for the Commons: Contents 33, Non Contents 88.

Queſtion, "That the managers for the Commons be directed to proceed upon the whole of the charges, before the priſoner be called upon to open his defence." Carried in the affirmative without a diviſion.

Treatment of the Negro Slaves at Sea, in a Voyage from the Coaſt of Guinea to the Weſt Indies.

[From the Rev. Mr Newton's Thoughts on the African Slave-Trade, who in the early part of life was a captain of a veſſel in that trade.] [p. 85.]

WITH the Engliſh ſhips on the coaſt of Guinea (ſays Mr Newton) the great object is, to be full. When the ſhip is

is there, it is thought deſirable ſhe ſhould take as many as poſſible. The cargo of a veſſel of a hundred tons, or little more, is calculated to purchaſe from two hundred and twenty to two hundred and fifty ſlaves. Their lodging rooms below the deck, which are three, (for the men, the boys, and the women,) beſides a place for the ſick, are ſometimes more than five feet high, and ſometimes leſs; and this height is divided towards the middle; for the ſlaves lie in two rows, one above the other, on each ſide of the ſhip, cloſe to each other, like books upon a ſhelf. I have known them ſo cloſe, that the ſhelf would not eaſily contain one more.

And I have known a white man ſent down among the men, to lay them in theſe rows to the greateſt advantage, ſo that as little ſpace as poſſible might be loſt. Let it be obſerved, that the poor creatures thus cramped for want of room, are likewiſe in irons, for the moſt part both hands and feet, and two together, which makes it difficult for them to turn or move, to attempt either to riſe or to lie down, without hurting themſelves, or each other. Nor is the motion of the ſhip, eſpecially her heeling, or ſtoop on one ſide, when under ſail, to be omitted; for this, as they lie athwart, or acroſs the ſhip, adds to the uncomfortableneſs of their lodging, eſpecially to thoſe who lie on the leeward, or leaning ſide of the veſſel.

Dire is the toſſing, deep the groans.—

The heat and the ſmell of theſe rooms, when the weather will not admit of the ſlaves being brought upon deck, and of having their rooms cleaned every day, would be almoſt inſupportable to a perſon not accuſtomed to them. If the ſlaves and their rooms can be conſtantly aired, and they are not detained too long on board, perhaps there are not many die. But the contrary is often their lot. They are kept down by the weather to breathe a hot and corrupted air, ſometimes for a week: this, added to the galling of the irons, and the deſpondency which ſeizes their ſpirits when thus confined, ſoon becomes fatal. And every morning, perhaps, more inſtances than one are found, of the living and the dead, like the captives of Mezentius, faſtened together.

Epidemical fevers and fluxes, which fill the ſhip with noiſome and noxious effluvia, often break out, infect the ſeamen likewiſe, and the oppreſſors and the oppreſſed fall by the ſame ſtroke. I believe, nearly one half of the ſlaves on board have ſometimes died; and that the loſs of a third part in theſe circumſtances is not unuſual. The ſhip in which I was mate left the Coaſt with two hundred and eighteen ſlaves on board; and though we were not much affected by epidemical diſorders, I find, by my journal of that voyage, (now before me), that we buried ſixty two on our paſſage to South Carolina, excluſive of thoſe who died before we left the Coaſt, of which I have no account.

I believe, upon an average between the more healthy and the more ſickly voyages, and including all contingencies, one fourth of the whole purchaſe may be allotted to the article of mortality; that is, if the Engliſh ſhips purchaſe ſixty thouſand ſlaves annually upon the whole extent of the Coaſt, the annual loſs of lives cannot be much leſs than fifteen thouſand.

I am now to ſpeak of the ſurvivors. When the ſhips make the land, (uſually the Weſt-India iſlands), and have their port in view, after having been four, five, ſix weeks, or a longer time at ſea, (which depends much upon the time that paſſes before they can get into the permanent trade-winds, which blow from the north-eaſt and eaſt acroſs the Atlantic), then, and not before, they venture to releaſe the men-ſlaves from their irons. And then, the ſight of land, and their freedom from long and painful confinement, uſually excite in them a degree of alacrity, and a tranſient feeling of joy—

The priſoner leaps to loſe his chains.

But this joy is ſhort-lived indeed. The condition of the unhappy ſlaves is in a continual progreſs from bad to worſe. Their caſe is truly pitiable, from the moment they are in a ſtate of ſlavery in their own country; but it may be deemed a ſtate of eaſe and liberty, compared with their ſituation on board our ſhips.

Yet, perhaps, they would wiſh to ſpend the remainder of their days on ſhip-board, could they know beforehand, the nature of the ſervitude which awaits them on ſhore; and that the dreadful hardſhips and ſufferings they have already endured, would to the moſt of them only terminate in exceſſive toil, hunger, and the excruciating tortures of the cart-whip, inflicted at the caprice of an unfeeling overſeer,

proud

proud of the power allowed him of puniſhing whom, and when, and how he pleaſes.

I hope the ſlaves in our iſlands are better treated now than they were at the time when I was in the trade. And even then, I know there were ſlaves, who, under the care and protection of humane maſters, were, comparatively, happy. But I ſaw and heard enough to ſatisfy me, that their condition in general was wretched to the extreme. However, my ſtay in Antigua and St Chriſtopher's (the only iſlands I viſited) was too ſhort to qualify me for ſaying much, from my own certain knowledge, upon this painful ſubject. Nor is it needful: —Enough has been offered by ſeveral reſpectable writers, who have had opportunity of collecting ſurer and fuller information.

One thing I cannot omit, which was told me by the gentleman to whom my ſhip was conſigned, at Antigua, in the year 1751, and who was himſelf a planter. He ſaid, that calculations had been made with all poſſible exactneſs, to determine which was the preferable, that is, the more ſaving method of managing ſlaves:——

"Whether to appoint them moderate work, plenty of proviſion, and ſuch treatment as might enable them to protract their lives to old age?" Or,

"By rigorouſly ſtraining their ſtrength to the utmoſt, with little relaxation, hard fare, and hard uſage, to wear them out before they became uſeleſs, and unable to do ſervice; and then to buy new ones, to fill up their places?"

He farther ſaid, that theſe ſkilful calculators had determined in favour of the latter mode, as much the cheaper; and that he could mention ſeveral eſtates, in the iſland of Antigua, on which it was ſeldom known that a ſlave had lived above nine years.—*Ex pede Herculem!*

When the ſlaves are landed for ſale, (for in the Leeward Iſlands they are uſually ſold on ſhore), it may happen, that after a long ſeparation in different parts of the ſhip, when they are brought together in one place, ſome who are nearly related may recognize each other. If, upon ſuch a meeting, pleaſure ſhould be felt, it can be but momentary. The ſale diſperſes them wide, to different parts of the iſland, or to different iſlands. Huſbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and ſiſters, muſt ſuddenly part again, probably to meet no more.

After a careful peruſal of what I have written, weighing every paragraph diſtinctly, I can find nothing to retract. As it is not eaſy to write altogether with coolneſs upon this buſineſs, and eſpecially not eaſy to me, who have formerly been ſo deeply engaged in it; I have been jealous, leſt the warmth of imagination might have inſenſibly ſeduced me, to aggravate and overcharge ſome of the horrid features which I have attempted to delineate of the African trade. But, upon a ſtrict review, I am ſatisfied.

I have apprized the reader that I write from memory, after an interval of more than thirty years. But at the ſame time, I believe many things which I ſaw, heard, and felt, upon the coaſt of Africa, are ſo deeply engraved in my memory, that I can hardly forget, or greatly miſtake them, while I am capable of remembering any thing. I am certainly not guilty of wilful miſrepreſentation. And, upon the whole, I dare appeal to the Great Searcher of hearts, in whoſe preſence I write, and before whom I and my readers muſt all ſhortly appear, that (with the reſtrictions and exceptions I have made) I have advanced nothing, but what, to the beſt of my judgement and conſcience is true.

Diſtreſs of a Welſh Curate.

AMong the ſeveral returns made to the Houſe of Commons, in compliance with Mr Gilbert's Bill relating to the poor, was one from a poor Welſh curate, who, after delineating the diſtreſſes of his poor neighbours, adds, "But their diſtreſſes cannot be greater than mine own: I have a wife that is far advanced in her pregnancy; I have around me nine poor children, for whom I never yet could procure ſhoe or ſtocking; it is with difficulty I can ſupply them with food. My income is 35 l. per ann. and for this I do the duty of four pariſhes." This letter here alluded to, had a wonderful effect upon the whole committee. Mr Gilbert, with that benevolence which has long characteriſed him, immediately tranſmitted to the poor curate a bank-note for a temporary ſupply. The letter has been ſhown to their Majeſties; inquiry has been made as to the moral character of the man; and proviſion will be made for him as ſoon as poſſible.

Statement

Statement of the proceedings between the Board of Controul, and the Directors of the East-India Company, reſpecting the four regiments of his Majeſty's troops intended to ſerve in India at the expence of the Company.

IT appears that on or before Aug. 26. 1785, a plan of the military peace-eſtabliſhment in India, founded on the papers tranſmitted by Gen. Campbell, with ſome ſmall deviations by the board of controul, had been laid before the court of directors. The deviations made by the board appeared to have been theſe: In place of one troop of European cavalry, the board had adopted an eſtabliſhment, conſiſting of one regiment of European cavalry, and five regiments of native cavalry, an eſſential improvement, at very little difference of expence.

Court of Directors, Aug. 6. 1785. The directors acknowledge their want of ſufficient military knowledge to enable them to ſpeak decidedly on every part of the plan; but are not without the moſt alarming apprehenſions leſt the *conſiderable reduction* propoſed in the number of *European infantry* ſhould be productive of ſerious conſequences: and therefore moſt earneſtly remonſtrate againſt a reduction of the army upon the Bengal eſtabliſhment, which will leave a leſs force than 4500 effective Europeans for the protection of that eſtabliſhment.

Board of Controul, Sept. 5. Anſ. With regard to the general principles of the diſtribution of your military force, we certainly cannot be of opinion, that even the ſafety of Bengal can be ſufficiently provided for without a force kept up at all times, both at Madras and Bombay, fully adequate to their defence, how deficient ſoever the revenues may be which they produce; nor is the addition to the Bengal eſtabliſhment to be eſtimated by any given number of European troops, unleſs there is a probability of their being ſupported by a ſufficient annual proportion of recruits from Europe; for otherwiſe a larger nominal eſtabliſhment may increaſe the expence, but cannot increaſe the ſecurity of your eſtabliſhment. Having, however, conſidered the weight due to the opinion of Mr Haſtings on this ſubject, more particularly when in concurrence with your own, the board has been induced to add to the military eſtabliſhment of Bengal two battalions of European infantry and one of European artillery, by which the whole Europeans in the Bengal army (officers included) will amount to more than 5000; a force exceeding that ſtated by the court to be neceſſary, and fully adequate, in the opinion of the board, to the ſecurity of thoſe valuable provinces.

Court of Directors, Oct. 17. 1787. The chairman ſtated the reſult of a conference with the Rt Hon. H. Dundas, in which that commiſſioner declared his Majeſty's intentions immediately to raiſe four regiments for ſervice in India; each regiment to conſiſt of ten companies, with the uſual complement of officers; in the appointment of whom it was his Majeſty's wiſh to extend the benefit of this meaſure to the meritorious officers in the Company's ſervice, as well as his own; and therefore was inclined to take the recommendation of the Company to the following commiſſions in the ſaid corps, viz. 1 lieut. col. 3 majors, 14 captains, 42 lieutenants, 16 enſigns:—The number of privates to be 2840, which his Majeſty undertakes to raiſe, on condition that the Company bear a proportionable ſhare of the expence, which, at five guineas a-man, will amount to about 7000 l.

Reſolved, That Mr Dundas be deſired to expreſs the general ſentiments of the court of directors for his Majeſty's gracious attention to the ſafety of the Company's poſſeſſions in India; *and that they conſent to receive the ſuccours in the manner propoſed.*

Court of Directors, Oct. 19. On motion reſpecting the military fund, reſolved, That all officers in the ſervice of the Company, who ſhall accept commiſſions in his Majeſty's ſervice, ſhall from that time be eſteemed to have relinquiſhed the ſervice of the Company.

Court of Directors, Oct. 24. The chairman laid before the court a paper from the ſecretary at war, containing the number and rank of the officers to be recommended by the Company for the four regiments to be employed in India, viz. 18 for Sir Archibald Campbell's regiment; 18 for Col. Abercrombie's; 18 for Col. Muſgrave's; and 18 for Col. March's. The court taking the ſame into conſideration, agreed to propoſe ſeveral officers, particularly two aid-de-camps of the Governor General, if approved by his Lordſhip.

Court of Directors, Oct. 26. Letters were read from the war-office, adviſing his

his Majeſty's order for numbering the ſaid regiments, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th; and ſignifying his Majeſty's conſent reſpecting the officers named.

Court of Directors, Oct. 31. A letter was read from Lord Sydney, dated the 30th, incloſing the King's warrant for inliſting for five years a number of men, not exceeding 2500, to be ſubmitted to the inſpection of an officer appointed by his Majeſty before they ſet ſail for India.

The committee of correſpondence, ſubmitting to the court at the ſame time a plan for ſupplying the remaining proportion of officers for the four regiments, the conſideration thereof was deferred.

Court of Directors, Nov. 1. Reſolved, That a board of the following field-officers of the Company be convened, to conſider and report the beſt method of carrying his Majeſty's gracious permiſſion into effect, viz. Maj. Generals Wm. Meadows and Giles Stebbert, Brig.-Gen^{ls} John Caillaud, Sir Rbt Barker, and Rd Smith, Col. Charles Morgan.

Court of Directors, Nov. 7. The report of the above board was read, and was in ſubſtance, That the ſelection be given in option to the oldeſt officers of each rank at the three preſidencies of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, according to the actual ſtate of the total number, ſupernumeraries included, on the arrival of the court's orders in India; that is to ſay, as the number of any rank on the three eſtabliſhments is to the number of the ſame rank to be nominated by the Company, ſo is the number of that rank, in each eſtabliſhment reſpectively, to the number of the ſame rank to be taken from that eſtabliſhment.

Reſolved, That this court do, on the 13th inſtant, take into conſideration the rank of the Company's military officers.

Committee of the whole Court, Nov. 13. The committee was proceeding in purſuance of the above reſolution, when a petition to his Majeſty was offered for the committee's conſideration, as proper for the adoption of the court, importing "That by the articles of war eſtabliſhed in purſuance of an act 25th Geo. II. c. 9. the military officers of the crown were empowered to bear rank over thoſe of the Company holding like commiſſions, although the King's commiſſion bore later date than the Company's; your petitioners, without wiſhing to controvert the wiſdom and juſtice of this regulation at the time when it was framed, moſt ſubmiſſively intreat your Majeſty to advert to the alteration of circumſtances ſince that period. A few regiments levied with difficulty, for the mere defence of a commercial ſettlement, could not be of ſufficient importance to rank with officers under the commiſſion of a Britiſh Monarch. The troops of the crown were formerly employed in India only on temporary and occaſional ſervices, while thoſe of the Company were ſtationary and unchanged. The priority of rank was too ſhort to become burthenſome, while the ſtruggle of actual ſervice prevented a cloſe attention to domeſtic grievances, and the pre-eminence before mentioned was felt to be the right of intrinſic ſuperiority.

Your petitioners moſt humbly repreſent, that the motive for this honourable diſtinction, as far as it is founded on the comparative advantages of talent or conduct, has long been gradually weakened.

Your Majeſty's late reſolution, for immediately diſpatching four regiments to ſerve and continue in India, is a meaſure ſo eminently declaratory of your Majeſty's paternal attention to the welfare of every part of the Britiſh dominions, that your petitioners are emboldened to hope, from the ſame parental hand, a remedy for any incidental grievance which that reſolution may eventually inflict; and when your Majeſty is informed, that upwards of 1800 gallant and deſerving officers, bearing the Company's commiſſion, feel (the deareſt of all in a ſoldier's poſſeſſion) their honour affected in its tendereſt part by this event, there needs but a retroſpect to the univerſal tenor of your Majeſty's royal wiſdom to be aſſured of redreſs.

Your petitioners therefore, after moſt gratefully thanking your Majeſty for the favour which hath been delegated to them, of recommending out of the Company's forces a number of officers to each of the four regiments deſtined for India, amounting in the whole to 78 perſons, moſt humbly beg leave to repreſent, that the delegation, while it actually bears teſtimony to the merits and eligibility of the Company's officers, leaves your petitioners under the moſt diſtreſſing dilemma, how to ſatisfy upwards of 1800 deſerving men by the partial promotion of 78, as thoſe choſen officers muſt reſpectively ſuperſede all thoſe of their own rank from the inſtant of their nomination.

Your petitioners therefore cannot but incur

incur the imputation of partiality under every poſſible mode of ſelection; and ſhould they leave it to the option of their ſeveral officers, according to ſeniority, the difficulty would be ſhifted indeed from themſelves, but by no means obviated or redreſſed; and your petitioners are alarmed for the effects of that diſcontent which may pervade the whole of the Company's armies, as all thoſe who have acquired a pittance proportionate to the poſſibility of exiſting unemployed, may be expected to reſign; but to what conſequence deſpair may drive thoſe who have no reſource but their preſent ſervice, your petitioners venture not even to imagine. To remove this grievance, and at the ſame time to gratify a body of men who look up to your Majeſty with a well-earned conſciouſneſs of repeated ſucceſs, it is the moſt humble prayer of your petitioners, that your Majeſty would be pleaſed to grant equality of rank, according to the dates of their ſeveral commiſſions, to the Company's, with your Majeſty's officers while ſerving in India, &c. And your petitioners," &c.

At the ſame time while debating on the propriety of preſenting this petition, the petition of the military officers on the Bengal eſtabliſhment to the court of directors was introduced and read; in which they repreſent, "That the Company's officers are and muſt be equal to his Majeſty's officers, and, in the field, where they only ſolicit an equality, their ſuperiors; for, admitting military knowledge to be the reſult of military experience, it follows, that to enable officers to act with every advantage in India, where the armies are compoſed of various nations, differing in language and religion; of men who are governed more by ſentiment than reaſon, whoſe manners muſt be ſtudied, and whoſe very prejudices muſt be occaſionally complied with; your officers poſſeſs peculiar and important advantages, which his Majeſty's officers, who have been trained to arms in a different theatre, have never had the means of acquiring. Yet they labour under the painful preſſure of an ignominious ſuperſeſſion, which wounds their honour, and extinguiſhes emulation.

Add to this, that his Majeſty's officers in peace and war, at home and abroad, have a growing rank: your officers can claim no rank but during their reſidence in India. This is ſuch an obvious and permanent advantage, that they are firmly perſuaded your juſtice will urge you to uſe every means in your power to prevent them from being farther injured and mortified by the King's officers ſuperſeding them in India.

But, above all, they obſerve with the deepeſt anxiety and concern, that the officers of the German corps, newly raiſed and lately ſent to India under ſanction of the before-recited clauſe of Geo. II. in like manner with his Majeſty's Britiſh officers, will not only rank with, but command them. This will be a ſpecies of mortification which Britons have hitherto never learned to bear, and which not only juſtice forbids, but policy condemns, and from which, we truſt, you will zealouſly endeavour to protect us."

After ſeveral other ſtriking repreſentations, they conclude their petition with the following moſt pathetic addreſs to the court: "After our long ſervices to you and to our country: after a painful exile of many years, ſituate in a remote ſection of the globe, expoſed to a climate unfavourable to our conſtitution, where few ſurvive, and all ſuffer; we cannot entertain a doubt but you will collectively and individually endeavour, by every means in your power, to ſecure us from the humiliating grievance we complain of, and not ſuffer officers who are grown grey in your ſervice, to be ſuperſeded by young gentlemen recent from the academy, many of whom have not been ſo long in exiſtence as the dates of our commiſſions. All we preſume to requeſt is, that you will procure for us an equality of rank with his Majeſty's officers that now are, or hereafter may do duty in India. And your petitioners," &c.

The petition being read, the court reſolved unanimouſly to poſtpone the farther conſideration of this buſineſs till Nov. 12. and in the mean time, the chairman and deputy chairman were requeſted to wait on the commiſſioners for the affairs of India, to requeſt their ſerious conſideration of the ſituation of the Company's army in India; to communicate the above petition propoſed to the court, as a mode of application to the crown; and at the ſame time to apprize the board, that the conſideration thereof is deferred, in hopes of being favoured with their ſentiments thereon.

Court of Directors, Nov. 21. The gentlemen, deputed as above, acquainted the

the court, that in conſequence of the reſolution of the committee, they had attended the India-board; when Mr Dundas (the only member preſent) informed them, that he was as deſirous as the directors could be to ſee the Company's officers happy and ſatisfied with their rank, and for proof referred them to the 36th and 37th paragraphs of the general letter to Bengal, dated July 21. 1786; recommending it at the ſame time to the conſideration of the court, whether it would not be proper to wait the anſwer to that letter (expected by the firſt ſhip) before they take any farther ſteps therein.

It was then reſolved to ſtate to the commiſſioners the difficulties which the court find themſelves under, in filling up the commiſſions in the new regiments; and the dangerous diſſentions which they apprehend may ariſe therefrom; and to conſult with the board upon ſome mode for obviating the apprehended inconveniences, either by an application to his Majeſty for granting equal rank, as the petition ſets forth, or for withdrawing entirely the regiments intended to be ſent, in conſequence of an alteration which has taken place in public affairs ſince the adoption of the meaſure.

Court of Directors, Dec. 4. A letter was read, dated Nov. 29. and ſigned *Henry Dundas*, containing the obſervations of the board of commiſſioners on the above reſolutions, recapitulating what was ſaid before, of the attention and feelings of the board for the meritorious officers in the Company's ſervice, referring again to the paragraphs in the general letter; and, as a farther proof that the ſubject had not eſcaped the early attention of the board, enlarging on the late communication of rank in his own army offered by his Majeſty to no leſs than 78 officers in the ſervice of the Company; and wiſhing at the ſame time to be furniſhed (before adopting any determined ſyſtem thereon) with the ſentiments of the governors abroad, who have the beſt opportunities of being informed what arrangement would moſt completely accord with the wiſhes of the Company's officers in India. "But although," adds the letter, "this mode of conducting the buſineſs is moſt conſonant to our opinions, we are far from wiſhing to avoid a diſcuſſion with the court of directors; but, in doing ſo, you muſt be aware that the ſubject leads to much more detail than probably you have yet given it. We have given directions for the purpoſe of being authentically informed what are the number of officers now in your ſervice, with the dates of their commiſſions. Being furniſhed with this information, we ſhall then be ready to enter into further detail, from which we ſhall be enabled to judge of the full extent of your propoſition, and the conſequences to which it neceſſarily tends."

The letter concludes with theſe words: "In alluding to your propoſition, we deſire to be diſtinctly underſtood, not to refer to the concluding part of your reſolution. The idea of diminiſhing any part of the Britiſh forces now in India, or in contemplation to be ſent there, is ſo adverſe to what we conceive to be for the welfare and ſecurity of his Majeſty's dominions in India, we cannot allow ſuch an idea to enter into any farther diſcuſſion between us."

Court of Directors, Dec. 5. The court, having taken into conſideration the above letter, reſolved, That it is incumbent on the court to expreſs the ſatisfaction they feel under the communication made to them of the ſteps now taking to compoſe the jealouſies of the meritorious officers in India; but that the court have beheld, with the deepeſt concern, the determined manner in which the commiſſioners of the affairs in India have waved all further diſcuſſion upon the ſubject of withdrawing entirely the four regiments intended for the ſervice in India. In juſtice to their conſtituents, and in diſcharge of the truſt repoſed in them, they are bound to repreſent the very heavy, and, as they conceive, very unneceſſary expence which will be entailed upon the Company, by adding, in the manner propoſed, the four regiments to the Company's eſtabliſhment; a meaſure lately adopted, under the preſſure and apprehenſion of an immediate impending war; which being now happily removed by the alteration which has taken place in public affairs, the court can have no doubt of being able, by the aſſiſtance of his Majeſty's miniſters, to raiſe men for their ſervice without incurring an enormous expence, againſt which, it would be the duty of the court to ſtep forward, even if the poſitive injunction of the legiſlature, the anticipated revenues, and the immenſe incumbrances under which the Company is labouring, did not point out

out the neceſſity of the moſt rigid œconomy.

For theſe reaſons, the court ſay, they are inclined to hope, that the commiſſioners will alter the determination they have taken, and concur with the court in a repreſentation to his Majeſty, by which ſuch an increaſe of European ſtrength may be obtained in India, as may be judged abſolutely expedient, in a mode leſs deſtructive to the welfare of the Company.—The above reſolution was carried in the affirmative.

Court of Directors, Dec. 12. On reading a letter from a committee of the Company's military officers, requeſting to be informed what ſteps had been taken in conſequence of the petition tranſmitted to Europe in 1784, &c.

Reſolved, That the committee be informed, that the ſaid petition was delivered to one of the ſecretaries of ſtate; that in July 1786, the Gov. Gen. was called upon for his opinion, and for that of the Gov. of Fort St George, as to the beſt mode of ſatisfying the Company's officers on the ſubject of rank: That conferences had been already, and will continue to be, held with the commiſſioners; and that the court will perſevere in their beſt endeavours to obtain ſuch ſatisfaction as may remove any mortifying diſtinction between the two corps when ſerving in India.

Court of Directors, Dec. 19. After reading a letter from a committee of the Company's military officers, dated Dec. 17. a motion was made for an application, "That his Majeſty would be graciouſly pleaſed to withdraw the regiments in queſtion, for the reaſons already aſſigned;" which motion was referred to be taken into conſideration on a future day.

Court of Directors, Dec. 28. The chairman laid before the court the following note from Lord Sydney: "His Majeſty's ſervants do not propoſe to adviſe his Majeſty to alter the reſolution of ſending the four regiments to India. They obſerve in the papers tranſmitted to them by the board of controul, that the directors complain of the effect which the introduction of ſo many officers of high rank in his Majeſty's ſervice in India will have on the ſituation of the officers in the Company's troops; at the ſame time they cannot but conſider the admiſſion of the officers of the Company to halt the commiſſions in the four new regiments, to be a conſiderable advantage to the Company's corps of officers; but as the board of controul hath called for the dates of the commiſſions of the officers, alluded to by the directors, his Majeſty's ſervants do not think themſelves authoriſed to give an opinion concerning the meaſures neceſſary to be taken to prevent any juſt complaint upon the ſubject in queſtion, till that information is laid before them."

It was then agreed, that the farther conſideration of the motion on the 19th be deferred till Jan. 16. 1788.

Court of Directors, Jan. 16. 1788. The motion of Dec. 19. paſſed in the affirmative; and reſolved, That Jacob Boſanquet, Hugh Inglis, Stephen Luſhington, Eſqrs. and the Hon. Wm Elphinſtone, be appointed a committee, to draw up an humble addreſs to his Majeſty purſuant to the foregoing reſolution; and that the Company's counſel and ſolicitor do give their aſſiſtance.

Court of Directors, Jan. 23. It was moved, that the memorial and petition, prepared, in purſuance of the laſt reſolution, be agreed to: it paſſed in the affirmative. Upon which,

John Motteux, Eſq; chairman, delivered in his diſſent, to the following purport;

1. Becauſe the court, on Oct. 17. 1787, accepted the ſuccours, after moſt gratefully expreſſing their acknowledgements to his Majeſty for his attention to the ſafety of the Company's poſſeſſions.

2. Becauſe the commiſſioners for the affairs of India, and his Majeſty's miniſters, have unequivocally declared the neceſſity of keeping up a permanent European force in India.

3. Becauſe the expence does not appear ſo great as has been repreſented.

4. Becauſe there is reaſon to hope, that on the receipt of the opinions daily expected from India, the commiſſioners will unite their endeavours with thoſe of the court, to obtain from his Majeſty ſuch mark of royal favour to the Company's officers as will remove every cauſe of complaint.

5. Becauſe he doubts if his Majeſty's miniſters would (without having recourſe to parliament) give ſuch power to the court as would enable them to raiſe an adequate force *on terms much leſs burdenſome to the Company*; or that, even with freſh parliamentary powers, any very conſiderable ſum would be ſaved in raiſing a force equal to the neceſſary defence.

6. Becauſe the ſhips bound to China and thoſe bound to Coaſt and Bay, that have reſpectively received orders to touch at Bombay and Fort St George in their way to their deſtined ports, for the expreſs purpoſe of carrying out the new raiſed regiments, will, in the opinion of the profeſſional members of the court, run ſome riſk of loſing their paſſage; thoſe to Coaſt and China, if they do not ſail by the middle of February; and thoſe bound to Bombay and China, that remain after Feb. 10. cannot have much chance of ſaving theirs; add to this, the expence of demurrage daily incurring; and that all the ſhips bound to China carry treaſure for purchaſing cargoes, which not returning in proper time may prove very diſtreſſing to the Company's affairs.

On ſimilar grounds the chairman was joined by Nath. Smith, John Hunter, Rob. Thornton, T. Pattle, jun. John Townſend, Paul Le Meſurier, and James Moffatt, *Directors*. And Wm. Devaynes, deputy chairman, delivered his diſſent, as he was further of opinion, that the reſolution of Jan. 16. would rather tend to promote than put an end to the diſſentions which ſubſiſted.

[*To be continued.*]

Account of a Moving Bog in Ireland.

A perſon who went to ſee the Bog of Monaghan, and Liſſowrin, near Dundrum, which has cauſed ſo much converſation, and created ſuch alarm in that neighbourhood, has given the following account of this extraordinary phenomenon:

"On the 27th of March, a rumbling noiſe from the bogs attracted the attention of the ſurrounding inhabitants, who obſerved the bog to be much agitated; both the noiſe and agitation continued to the 30th, when they were greatly increaſed; the ſurface gave way at the ſouth-eaſt ſide of the bog, and a prodigious quantity of matter iſſued, taking its courſe in the above direction, towards Ballygriffin and Golden, overſpreading and laying waſte a very fine tract of country.

The groſſer part of the matter is ſhoved at each ſide of the channel through which the more fluid part takes its courſe, and becoming fixed, has formed a barrier to the channel; which, from the ſource to the extremity of the lava, is invariably in the centre of the matter diſcharged. The breadth of this ſtratum, in ſundry places, is nearly an Engliſh mile, in other parts is very narrow.

This extraordinary event is accounted for as follows. The bog is from two to three miles in diameter, ſurrounded by high grounds on all ſides, except where the lava iſſues, and in one place more at the oppoſite ſide of the bog. It is ſuppoſed that the bog itſelf has been originally formed by the defluction from thoſe high ſurrounding grounds, and that the conſtant diſtillation has continued, ever ſince its firſt formation, to increaſe and elevate the bog; that time had given to the ſurface, not only ſtrength and toughneſs, but an elaſticity which accommodated itſelf to the gradual influx from the ſurrounding hills, whereby the bog has been raiſed to an elevation vaſtly above the ſurface over which the lava is now flowing, notwithſtanding which the texture of the ſurface was ſuch, that it confined the internal matter, though the centre of the bog had ariſen many yards above the level of the two paſſes already mentioned.

Every thing that oppoſed its progreſs was buried in ruins. Four houſes were totally deſtroyed, and ſeveral ditches, croſſing the valley through which it flowed, have been proſtrated, and the trees growing thereon ſwept away, nothing being able to reſiſt its impetuoſity. The diſcharge has been inceſſant ſince the 30th, and how far it will extend ſeems difficult to determine; it has already croſſed the great road leading from Dundrum to Caſhel, rendering the ſame quite impaſſable; it has come to within half a mile of Ballygriffin-bridge, and in its progreſs has not covered leſs than between three and four hundred acres of excellent ground; part of the eſtate of John Lapp Judkin, Eſq; of Caſhel, and part of the eſtate of Col. Hyde.—The diſtance from Ballygriffin to Golden is not more than a mile, the paſſage is narrow, and the fall very conſiderable; ſo that, unleſs the diſcharge from the bog ſhall ſpeedily ceaſe, the conſequences to be apprehended are ſerious and alarming; and from the reaſons given hereafter, there ſeems no proſpect of any ſtay to the iſſuing of matter from the ſource. The quantity of matter at preſent coming down the country appears too great for the river Suir to carry off. Should the lava reach that river, (which is very probable), and prove an over match for its force, the country muſt be inundated, and the river diverted

ed from its preſent channel.—The matter iſſued from the bog is a black turf mould, of the conſiſtence of thick porridge or ſtirabout, carrying with it large pieces of the ſurface of the bog, which have fallen into the current.

The progreſs of this matter is generally very ſlow and progreſſive, which is proveable from the advance it has made ſince the 30th, being about two miles and an half from the ſource. At particular periods, however, the lava iſſues with extraordinary rapidity, owing to a junction of the diſmembered ſurface in the neck of the bog, which becomes a temporary obſtruction to the diſcharge; but, as ſoon as the flowing matter forces through this obſtruction, the motion is vaſtly increaſed, and the matter runs at the rate of ſix or eight miles an hour. At thoſe ſeaſons of agitation it undulates like the ſea; and if any thing oppoſes its progreſs, it becomes furious, and emits a ſpray to a height of ſeveral yards. The ſtratum which covers the plains through which it paſſes, is broad and narrow according to the ſituation of the ground through which it runs; its depth is alſo various, owing to the ſame cauſe, in ſome places not more than two feet, in others from ſix to ten.

On this principle, if we conſider the long continuance of rain we have had during the paſt winter, and the vaſt quantity that muſt have concentered in a ſpot ſituated as this is, we ſhall eaſily conceive that ſuch a body of water, filtered through the ſurface, and mixing with the incloſed matter, not only increaſed and agitated it, but proved a ſurcharge too great for the ſurface to contain, which at length burſt, and thus the interior matter found its way into the adjacent country. Notwithſtanding the centre of the bog is conſiderably ſunken, and every perch of it is ſparated by a fiſſure, the elevation is ſtill many yards higher than the channel through which the lava iſſues, and it is more than probable, a much greater quantity of matter remains to be diſcharged than what has yet been emitted."

On the whole, this is conſidered to be one of the moſt curious circumſtances in the hiſtory of nature this kingdom has furniſhed for many ages paſt. *Edin. Mag.*

[See an account of a ſimilar eruption of Solway Moſs, in the Magazine for December 1771.]

Farther particulars of the late Athenian Stuart.

SIR, *March* 20.

YOU have given the public [p. 61.] an account of the celebrated Athenian Stuart, which has given great ſatisfaction to his numerous friends and acquaintance; but there are a few miſtakes in it, that ought to be corrected, to prevent future biographers from being led aſtray, ſhould they happen to conſult the account given by your correſpondent. H. A. ſets out with informing us, that Mr Stuart was the ſon of a mariner; but he does not tell us what country, nor what year gave birth to this ingenious man. I, who became acquainted with him ſoon after his return from Greece, have often heard him mention that he was born in London in 1713; that his parents lived in Creedlane, Ludgate-ſtreet; that his father was of Scotland, and his mother from Wales. Though poor, they were honeſt and worthy people, and gave their ſon the beſt education in their power.

Your correſpondent mentions, that Mr Stuart made himſelf known to Meſſ. Dawkins and Bouverie at Rome; but I believe this is a miſtake. Mr Stuart told me that he firſt met with thoſe gentlemen at Athens; and I believe it was there that he received the firſt proofs of regard from the generous-ſpirited and enterpriſing Dawkins, who was glad to encourage a brother in ſcientific inveſtigation, who poſſeſſed equal ardour with himſelf, but with very unequal means, for proſecuting thoſe inquiries, in which both were engaged, with ſo much ſimilarity of diſpoſition and eagerneſs of purſuit.

Your correſpondent, I think, makes no mention of Mr Revett, who was Mr Stuart's companion at Athens, and who was jointly concerned with him in compiling and publiſhing that great work, "The Antiquities," &c. of which the firſt volume only has yet made its appearance. I am happy, however, in this opportunity of confirming to you the report, that the ſecond volume has been left by Mr Stuart in a ſtate nearly ready for publication, and that the *Dilettanti Society* propoſe to give it to the public very ſoon: under better auſpices it could not appear.

Mr Revett was, by profeſſion, an architect; and it was from him that Mr

Stuart firſt caught his ideas of that ſcience, in which (quitting the painter's art) he afterwards made ſo conſpicuous a figure. It was at Rome that Meſſ. Stuart and Revett firſt became acquainted, and from whence they travelled together to Athens, for the purpoſe of inveſtigating the remains of ancient grandeur ſtill to be found in the ruins of that celebrated metropolis of the moſt poliſhed of the Grecian ſtates.

Your correſpondent makes Mr Stuart conſiderably older than he was at the time of his death. He appears likewiſe to have been very ill informed with reſpect to the circumſtances of his matrimonial engagements, for he was twice married, though H. A. mentions only one connection of that kind. It was (as nearly as I can recollect) about the year 1760 when Mr Stuart was firſt married: his choice then fell upon his houſekeeper, a very good woman, by whom he had a ſon, who died at the age of four or five years. His ſecond wife, now his widow, was a Miſs Blackſtone, whoſe father was a farmer in Kent; and to this very young lady he was united when he was about the age of ſixty-ſeven. By her he had four children; one of whom, a boy, was the very "image and ſuperſcription" of himſelf, both in body and mind; he manifeſted a moſt aſtoniſhing turn for *drawing*, even before he was three years old; and would imitate, with pen or pencil, every thing he ſaw lying on his father's table. This child (his father's darling) died of the ſmall-pox towards the latter end of the year 1787; and poor Mr Stuart's health was obſerved to decline very rapidly from that time.

Mr Stuart's eldeſt ſon is ſtill living; a fine boy, about ſeven years old, and is at Mr Burney's boarding-ſchool at Hammerſmith. In the ſame village alſo are placed, at Miſs Scott's, Mr Stuart's two daughters, the eldeſt of whom is about eight years of age. It is happy for theſe that they are ſo properly ſituated; and it is ſtill more happy for them, that they are alſo under the careful eye of a prudent and affectionate mother, to whom this farther teſtimony of reſpect is due, that, notwithſtanding the diſparity of years between her and Mr Stuart, ſhe made his *latter days* as comfortable and happy as the aſſiduity and tenderneſs of an affectionate wife can poſſibly render thoſe of a fond and truly domeſticated huſband.

Thus it appears that the hero of our tale was not ſo far advanced in years as he is made to have been by the account of your correſpondent. According to H. A he muſt have been 81 or 82; but as a collateral proof of the account which I have now given, I can refer any inquirer to the plate on his coffin, which I ſaw depoſited in the vault of the church of St Martin in the Fields, on which he is ſaid to have died, Feb. 2. 1788, in the 76th year of his age.

And now, Sir, with your good leave, a word or two in concluſion, concerning an illiberal paragraph which lately appeared in a newſpaper, reflecting, very unjuſtly, on the ingenious and learned Athenian, for ſpending much of his time in alehouſes with low company, &c. The perſon who wrote that paragraph was not in the ſecret of Mr Stuart's true character. He was a great humouriſt in the moſt agreeable ſenſe of the word; an attentive obſerver of men and manners; and having learned that there were clubs of artiſts, &c. held at certain porter-houſes in his neighbourhood, belonging to which were ſome odd geniuſes, men of an original turn of thinking and converſation, he would, occaſionally, when his evenings were not otherwiſe engaged, reſort for variety to ſuch places, in order to ſmoke his darling pipe, and liſten to their curious debates, &c. At theſe places, he was received with much reſpect by the company, who thought themſelves highly honoured by his preſence: and often, on the next day, would he entertain his friends of the *higher orders* with his pleaſant details of what uſually paſſed at ſuch droll aſſemblies. And where, pray, was the harm of all this? Dean Swift and Hogarth often did the ſame; and to the ideas which they acquired on ſuch occaſions, the world is indebted for many of thoſe admirable ſtrokes of humour which have diſtinguiſhed the pen of the one and the pencil of the other.

Yours, &c. A. H.

Gent. Mag.

PAR-

PARLIAMENT. [p. 73.]

In the Houſe of Commons, Feb. 4. Mr Kenrick roſe, and preſented a petition from Sir Elijah Impey, ſtating, that he was then attending the Houſe; and praying, that he might be heard in reply to the charges which had been exhibited againſt him. The petition having been read, the journals were conſulted for a precedent, when that relative to Mr Haſtings was adopted; on which Sir Elijah Impey was called in, and informed that the Houſe had reſolved to hear him.

Sir Elijah appeared in black, full-dreſſed, with a ſword and tie-wig. At half paſt four he entered upon his defence; and though he did not ſtop till a quarter after eight o'clock, he had not got through his reply to the ſingle charge relative to Nundcomar. He defended his conduct relative to that Rajah on many legal grounds: the authority of the ſupreme court, he admitted, did not extend over all the inhabitants of the Engliſh provinces India, but over the inhabitants of Calcutta it did. The Rajah had not been tried as a native of Bengal; but as an inhabitant of Calcutta, where he reſided, where he committed the crime, and where, of courſe, he was amenable to the laws of the place. The law too on which he had been tried, was not an *ex poſt facto* law; for, though the ſupreme court of judicature in Bengal was not in exiſtence when that law paſſed, yet it extended to India in conſequence of the charter of juſtice of the late King, ſent over in the 26th year of his reign. This he proved by a ſtrong circumſtance, viz. that in 1765 a native Indian had been tried and ſentenced to be hanged at Calcutta for forgery, but was reſpited, and afterwards pardoned by his Majeſty. While Sir Elijah was proceeding in his defence, he was interrupted by

Mr Pitt, who wiſhed that the further hearing might be adjourned, as the gentleman at the bar muſt be nearly exhauſted by the exertion of ſpeaking for ſo many hours. He could have wiſhed, he ſaid, that the gentleman had made his defence in writing, that it might be delivered to the clerk, in order to ſpare him the fatigue of ſpeaking.

A converſation here aroſe concerning the manner of giving in the defence; and it was agreed, that Sir Elijah ſhould be called in, and aſked whether he intended to ſubmit his defence in writing to the Houſe.

Sir Elijah ſaid, he had minutes, but that in the progreſs of his defence he found it impoſſible to ſpeak from them; it was not, therefore, in his power to give in minutes of his defence. Sir Elijah being again withdrawn,

Mr Burke ſaid, this was a great advantage to the accuſed, and as great a diſadvantage to the accuſer; the latter had delivered in his charges, which could not be altered or amended; but the former, not having committed his defence to writing, gentlemen muſt argue from memory, which he might charge with error, and ſhift the ground as often as he pleaſed. This, however, he obſerved, merely as it might make it difficult for other gentlemen to compare the charges with replies imperfectly recollected: for his own part, he had made this buſineſs his ſtudy ſo many years, that he ſhould be at no loſs; his mind had long ſince been made up on the ſubject.

Mr Pitt thought this declaration imprudent in the preſent ſtage of the buſineſs, as it would not ſuffer gentlemen to form a very favourable opinion of the juſtice of a perſon who, before he had heard the defence, could have finally and irrevocably made up his mind upon the merits of the caſe.

Mr Fox vindicated his Right Hon. friend, whoſe words would not bear the conſtruction which the laſt ſpeaker had put upon them. He had not ſaid, that he had made up his mind finally and irrevocably; much leſs had he ſaid, that he had made up his mind without hearing the defence: he had ſimply ſaid, that, after having made this buſineſs his ſtudy for many years, he had long ſince made up his mind upon it.

After ſome little ſparring, it was agreed, upon the motion of Mr Pitt, that the further hearing of Sir Elijah ſhould be adjourned to Thurſday; when,

Mr Francis roſe, and obſerved, that Sir Elijah Impey, when laſt before the Houſe, had read a paper, leſs calculated for the purpoſe of exculpating himſelf, than of criminating the ſupreme council of Bengal, or at leaſt the three members of it (Sir John Clavering, Col. Monſon, and Mr Francis) who, at the period alluded to, conſtituted the majority of that council. Sir Elijah's object

in reading that paper was to ſhew, that the council had approved of the proceedings of the ſupreme court of judicature in the caſe of Nundcomar; and conſequently that he, (Mr Francis), the only ſurvivor of the majority of that council, was inconſiſtent in now condemning what he had formerly approved ſo much, as to have moved, that the dying petition of Nundcomar ſhould be burnt by the hands of the common hangman at Calcutta, becauſe it was a libel on the judges who had tried Nundcomar. Sir Elijah had informed the Houſe, that the original petition was burnt by the common hangman; but that he had a copy of the tranſlation, altered and corrected by Mr Haſtings himſelf. If that copy was laid before the Houſe, as in juſtice to his character it ought to be, he would pledge himſelf to give a full and ſatisfactory anſwer to the inſinuations thrown out by Sir Elijah; and he would ſuffer his name to be handed down to poſterity with infamy, if he ſhould fail in that anſwer. He then moved, that Sir Elijah Impey be called in, and *required* to deliver to the Houſe the papers which he had read in his defence purporting to be a tranſlation of a petition from the Rajah Nundcomar, and delivered by Gen. Clavering to the ſupreme council of Bengal in the month of Auguſt 1775.

Mr Pitt, the Solicitor General, Mr Hardinge, Mr Scott, and the Maſter of the Rolls, inſiſted, that it would be unjuſt to oblige an accuſed man to give out of his poſſeſſion a paper that he might think neceſſary for his defence.—They admitted, however, that it would not be improper to aſk him for a copy of it; and agreed that, if he refuſed it, the Houſe ought to throw away from its recollection whatever part of the defence ſhould be grounded upon that paper.

On the other hand, Mr Fox, Mr Burke, and Mr Adam, maintained, that the very paper itſelf, and not a copy, ſhould be produced; and that if Sir Elijah ſhould refuſe to produce it, he ought to be compelled to deliver it. The Houſe had not ordered him to attend at their bar; he had voluntarily appeared, to ſtate reaſons that might induce the Houſe to drop the accuſation againſt him, and not to ſend it up to the Lords. In the courſe of theſe reaſons he quoted a paper that might have great weight with the Houſe—perhaps ſo much as to induce them to drop that charge: but was it not poſſible that the paper might be a forgery? and would it not therefore be abſurd to drop the accuſation upon the authority of a paper which the accuſed would not permit the Houſe to examine, in order to form a judgement of its authenticity?

Mr Pitt, adhering ſtill to his own opinion, moved an amendment to Mr Francis's motion, that inſtead of "be required to deliver," the following words ſhould be inſerted, "be aſked if he has any objection to deliver." After a long converſation, the Houſe divided upon this amendment, which was carried by a majority of 63; ayes 107; noes 44

Immediately after the diviſion, Sir Elijah Impey was called to the bar, and aſked by the Speaker, if he had any objection to produce a copy of the paper which had been the ſubject of the motion; his reply was, that he had not the leaſt objection, and that he would take care that the Houſe ſhould be furniſhed with a copy of it.

He then informed the Houſe, that, under the very peculiar circumſtances of his caſe, he found himſelf reduced to the neceſſity of calling for the protection of the Houſe. It was not enough, he obſerved, that he ſhould ſtand accuſed, before that great aſſembly, of enormous crimes; but he muſt alſo be attacked and traduced in the public prints, even at the moment when he was defending himſelf againſt thoſe heavy charges.—Upon his arrival in England, he had determined not to communicate any part of his caſe to the public through the medium of the papers, or endeavour to prepoſſeſs the nation in his favour by any publication whatever. Some few people had endeavoured to ſhake that reſolution, by recommending to him certain newſpapers as proper vehicles for conveying his ſentiments to the world; and threatened him with attacks upon his character if he refuſed to comply. But neither their ſoothings nor their menaces had power ſufficient to make him alter his determination. The threats had been carried into execution; for there appeared in the Morning Herald of yeſterday a moſt virulent libel againſt him; and the principal part of it had been copied into the Gazetteer of this day. Another groſs libel had alſo come out in a pamphlet publiſhed by Debrett. At Sir Elijah's requeſt, the obnoxious paragraphs

paragraphs were read to the Houſe; after which he obſerved, that, had his caſe been before any of the courts of law, the judges would readily grant an attachment againſt thoſe who ſhould preſume to poiſon the public mind againſt a man who was to be tried: how parliament would act in ſimilar circumſtances, he did not know; but, at all events, he demanded the protection of the Houſe, and flattered himſelf that he ſhould obtain it.

Mr W. Grenville moved, that Sir Elijah might withdraw from the bar; and, that gentleman having accordingly retired, Mr Grenville ſaid, that the publications relative to the proceedings of that Houſe had of late been highly derogatory to its dignity. It was an unpleaſant thing to complain of the preſs; but as a complaint had been made, the Houſe could not in juſtice paſs it over unnoticed; ſome proceedings ought to be grounded upon it; and for that purpoſe he moved, that the Houſe ſhould, on the morrow, take the ſaid complaint into conſideration. The motion was carried unanimouſly.

Sir Elijah was then re-called to the bar, and proceeded in his defence. At ten o'clock he finiſhed his anſwer to the charge on the Patna cauſe, and there he ſtopped. On the motion of Mr Pitt, he was aſked when he would wiſh to be heard in reply to the remaining charges? His anſwer was nearly as follows:

"From the moment I underſtood that I was to be accuſed, I reſolved not to ſink under the charge, but to meet it with fortitude. However, ſince the accuſation has aſſumed its preſent form, and the firſt charge is of ſo heinous a nature, the horror I feel at being thought capable of ſo black a crime, added to the bodily exertions I have been obliged to make in preparing and ſtating my defence, has been too powerful for my ſtrength, which begins to fail me: for ſome days paſt I have been ill, and am ſo now while I am addreſſing this Hon. Houſe. The charge relating to Nundcomar preſſes moſt upon my mind; and, until I know the opinion of the Houſe upon it, I cannot think of defending myſelf againſt the other charges. Tell me, before I proceed to them, whether or not, after the defence I have already made, this Houſe thinks me the murderer of Nundcomar? Should you anſwer me in the negative, you will relieve me from ſuch a weight of horror, that I ſhall give you but little trouble about the other charges. I care not if they are carried up againſt me to the Houſe of Lords, provided I ſtand acquitted in the judgement of this Houſe of ſo foul a ſtain upon my honour, as the imputation of having murdered a man under the forms of law." He then then withdrew from the bar, and

Mr Pitt ſaid, that he ſaw no inconvenience in gratifying the wiſh expreſſed by Sir Elijah: he therefore moved, that Sir Elijah ſhould be informed that the Houſe would take the firſt charge into conſideration, before they ſhould call upon him for any further defence. After ſome converſation the motion was agreed to, and Sir Elijah appearing again at the bar, was made acquainted with the determination of the Houſe.

On Feb. 8. Sir E. Impey was called to the bar, and required to produce the publications which he had made the ſubjects of complaint yeſterday. He produced the Morning Herald of Wedneſday, and the Gazetteer of Thurſday. He obſerved at the ſame time, that Mr Debrett, who was the publiſher of a pamphlet of which he had complained, had waited upon him, apologized for the publication, and promiſed to ſtop the ſale of it. Sir Elijah then withdrew.

Mr Grenville moved, that the paragraphs complained of in the papers preſented by Sir E. Impey were injurious to the dignity of the Houſe, and tended to prejudice the defence of a perſon accuſed before the Houſe of high crimes and miſdemeanours.

After long debate the motion was carried without a diviſion.

He next moved an addreſs to the King, that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to order the Attorney and Solicitor General to proſecute the printers of thoſe libels.

Mr Courteney obſerved, that Sir Elijah's having ſuppreſſed the libel of Debrett, he having apologized to him, ſuggeſted the following addition by way of amendment to the laſt motion, "unleſs the ſaid printers ſhall make an apology to Sir Elijah Impey." This amendment was negatived without a diviſion. The Houſe then divided upon the motion for the proſecution, which was carried by a majority of 72. Ayes 109,—noes 37.

Sir E. Impey appeared again at the bar after the diviſion, and preſented

a fair copy of the tranſlation of Nundcomar's petition, with a *fac ſimile* of the alterations and corrections in it. At the ſame time he ſaid that any member ſhould be at liberty to examine the original, which is kept in his poſſeſſion.

The Houſe in a committee to hear evidence in ſupport of the proſecution, Feb. 11. Sir Gilbert Elliot ſaid, he wiſhed that Mr Farrer, a member of that Houſe, might be aſked if he had any objection to be examined on the charges.

Mr Farrer replied, that though he believed he could give more information on the ſubject than any man alive, yet he had objections of a private nature to being examined. When he was in Bengal he had been appointed, by the ſpecial favour of Sir Elijah Impey, ſenior advocate of the ſupreme court; from this circumſtance ſome might imagine, that if the evidence he gave ſhould be favourable, he was influenced by gratitude to that gentleman. On the other hand, it was well known, that ſoon after the above appointment he had differed much with Sir Elijah, and had been ever after upon bad terms with him. Hence if his evidence ſhould be unfavourable, ſome might take occaſion to ſay that he was actuated by reſentment. However, diſagreeable as it might be to him to give evidence under theſe circumſtances, he would not decline it if it was the general ſenſe of the committee.

A converſation now aroſe, at the end of which the Hon. Mr St John (chairman of the committee) informed Mr Farrer, that it was the unanimous wiſh of the committee that he would ſuffer himſelf to be examined; on which Mr Farrer acquieſced. He then proceeded to give his evidence. His examination was finiſhed on the 20th, and after him another member, Mr Rous, was examined.

The Houſe, Feb. 11. in a committee to take into conſideration the commercial intercourſe with America; Mr W. Grenville obſerved, that the intercourſe bill between the United States of America and the Britiſh Weſt India Iſlands had been before ſo fully explained, that had he merely to propoſe a renewal of that act, which had been ſanctioned by the experience of four years, he ſhould have troubled the Houſe with but a few words. He had, however, now to propoſe to the Houſe, that that regulation which had before been but yearly, ſhould in part be made permanent; it was with much ſatisfaction that the experience of the benefits of the regulation which had taken place yearly for the laſt four years, enabled him to come forward to propoſe it to be made permanent. When the bill reſtricting the trade between the United States and the Weſt India colonies was firſt brought forward, and that trade prohibited to all but in Britiſh bottoms, it was with confidence aſſerted by the oppoſers of that bill, that the Weſt Indies could not be ſupplied from America with proviſions or lumber, and that no market would be found for the Weſt-India rum; the contrary he was happy in being able to aſſert, and to declare, that, after the experience of four years, it was found that both fears were equally groundleſs, and that during the laſt year the Weſt-India Iſlands had been more amply ſupplied with proviſions and lumber, than for many years before, and that the Weſt-Indian rum had found a better market in America; no one he could ſuppoſe would ſtart any objection to making that part of the intercourſe permanent, an intercourſe which had gained to this country the addition of between 40 000 and 50,000 tons of ſhipping, and found employ for more than 5000 ſeamen. The ſecond part which he wiſhed to be made permanent, was the reſtriction of trade between the remaining colonies in America under the Britiſh crown, and the United States of America. It was neceſſary, he ſaid, as they, being rivals, could not aſſiſt each other with different commodities or manufactures, and would, were the reſtrictions taken off, carry on a contraband trade, and thereby gain admittance to the Weſt India iſlands, from whence it was policy to keep them. Thoſe two points he wiſhed to be permanent; but the third, the trade between the United States of America and Great Britain, he wiſhed to remain in its preſent ſituation. It was confidently ſpoken of, that endeavours were making in America to form a fœderal government; when that government ſhould be eſtabliſhed, it would then be ſufficient time to come to any permanent regulation of trade; till then it had better remain as it was. Great Britain had long held out to America a commerce favourable to her: ſhe had admitted her veſſels into her ports with more favour than thoſe from other parts of the world. America had not returned the ſame favour to Great

Great Britain; and while American veſſels were admitted into Britiſh ports upon the moſt favourable terms, Britiſh veſſels met in American ports a more unfavourable reception than veſſels from other countries. Such conduct on the part of America had not eſcaped notice; and though Great Britain would do right to ſhew all poſſible forbearance, ſhe owed that to her dignity, not to ſuffer ſuch ingratitude much longer. It was his opinion, however, that the ſame regulations ſhould continue for another year; the criſis would ſpeedily arrive; and if America continued her preſent conduct with reſpect to great Britain, it would then be proper for England to retaliate, and ſhe had it abundantly in her power ſo to do. The Hon. Gentleman concluded by moving, "that the chairman be inſtructed to move for leave to bring in a bill for eſtabliſhing permanent regulations for trade between the United States of America and his Majeſty's Weſt-India Iſlands; and alſo between his Majeſty's colonies in America and the United States of America."

After a few words from Lord Penrhyn, Mr Pulteney, and Alderman Watſon, the queſtion was agreed to without a diviſion.

Mr Grenville then moved, "That a duty of 2s. 6d. per ton be paid by all American veſſels entering the ports of Turk's Iſland, and that they be permitted to trade for ſalt only," which was agreed to.

On Feb. 14. Mr Fox called the attention of the Houſe to a complaint againſt a libel. He ſaid, a pamphlet had been put into his hands, which, although it had eſcaped his notice, he underſtood had been publiſhed near a fortnight. It contained a groſs and ſcandalous libel on the Committee appointed by that Houſe to manage the proſecution of Mr Haſtings, as well as a libel upon the Houſe itſelf, upon his Majeſty, and upon the whole legiſlature. With regard to the reflections on himſelf perſonally, and on his friends, who were members of the Committee, he certainly did not, on that account, ſtand forward to complain of the pamphlet. It likewiſe, in terms of great licentiouſneſs, made free with the Rt Hon. gentleman oppoſite to him; but the Rt Hon. gentleman, he was perſuaded, would not expect it from him, that he ſhould ſtate that it was on that account that he complained of it to the Houſe; undoubtedly it was not. (Mr Pitt laughed heartily) The true cauſe of his urging a complaint againſt the pamphlet was, that it tended to degrade that Houſe, his Majeſty, and the Houſe of Lords, in the eyes of the public, and to hold forth the whole Legiſlature as acting upon baſe and improper motives on a ſubject, in which, of all others, it behoved them to act on the pureſt principles, and with the ſtricteſt regard to impartial juſtice. Having thus generally ſtated the ground of his complaint, Mr Fox then read a paſſage which alluded to Mr Haſtings enjoying in a peculiar degree, the ſmiles of his Sovereign, and inſinuated that his proſecution originated in that circumſtance. Mr Fox commented on this extract, and ſaid, it was beyond all doubt highly indecent to impute it to that Houſe to have been governed in their impeachment of Mr Haſtings by ſo improper a motive, as a deſign to thwart the wiſhes of the Sovereign. He read another paſſage, which charged the Houſe with having voted ſome of the articles of impeachment, without having inquired into their truth, and notwithſtanding their conviction that they were founded in miſrepreſentation and falſehood. A third paſſage ſtated, that the majority had followed the miniſter in their vote on the Benares charge, after the Right Hon. Gentleman had, in his ſpeech, fully juſtified Mr Haſtings in the principal part of the tranſactions ſtated in that charge, and only condemned him for what he intended to do, and for having exacted rather too heavy a fine. He next read one or more paſſages in which the writer juſtified Mr Haſtings's whole conduct in India, on principles which, Mr Fox ſaid, he hoped and believed were excluſively the writer's own; and, laſtly, he read a paſſage which ſtated, that the parties of the day joſtled each other in the dark, in order to run down a deſerving character; and that if any man went to India, and, after a long ſeries of extraordinary and meritorious ſervices, characteriſed by his eminent and obvious zeal for his country, and his ardent loyalty to his King, returned to Great Britain, and was received with the voice of the people and the applauſe of his Sovereign, unleſs he coaleſced with Oppoſition, and fought their favour, he riſked the vengeance of the party, and was liable to be impeached and undone. After adding ſome obſervations on the flagrancy of the libel contained in the

pamphlet, Mr Fox ſaid, he was rather at a loſs what motion to make, as to the mode moſt proper for the Houſe to adopt for the puniſhment of the libeller. The pamphlet was, in the trueſt ſenſe of the words, a public libel, and for that reaſon a proſecution by the Attorney-General might be the moſt proper mode of proceeding to puniſh; but he would leave it to thoſe who were moſt likely to be in poſſeſſion of the opinion of the Houſe, as to the mode of puniſhment moſt proper to be purſued, and would content himſelf with moving the general preliminary motion, viz.

"That the pamphlet complained of contained a libel highly reflecting on his Majeſty, and upon the proceedings of this Houſe, and was an indecent interference with reſpect to the proſecutions now depending on the impeachment of Warren Haſtings, Eſq; late Governor General of Bengal."

Mr Fox having delivered in the pamphlet to the clerk at the table, Mr Hatſell read its title as follows:

"A Review of the Charges againſt Warren Haſtings, Eſq;" &c. Printed by John Stockdale. [p. 84.]

Mr Hatſell read the paſſages complained of ſhort, *pro forma*.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then roſe and ſaid, though it appeared that he was perſonally intereſted in the pamphlet complained of, it really had not been noticed by him till the moment that the Right Hon. Gentleman had ſtated its contents to the Houſe. From what the Right Hon. Gentleman had read of the pamphlet, it appeared to him to be not only a libel, but a libel of a very heinous, though he conceived, not of a very dangerous nature. From the little he had heard, he had no doubt that the paſſages extracted by the Right Hon. Gentleman, were ſo libellous, that no context could reſtrain them from coming within that deſcription; but as it would not be right for the Houſe, upon ſo ſlight a ſuggeſtion as a member reading extracts, to ground a motion, however otherwiſe proper, he wiſhed the Right Hon. Gentleman would ſuffer the pamphlet to remain on the table for a day, in order that Gentlemen who wiſhed to know the contents before they voted, might read it, and forbear to make any other motion, "than that the pamphlet complained of as a libel be taken into conſideration on any future day." With regard to the mode of proſecution, undoubtedly a proſecution by the Attorney-General would in the preſent inſtance be the proper mode to be adopted, though he ſhould on that and every other occaſion contend, that the Houſe had it in its power at all times to puniſh the breach of their privileges by means of their own authority and juriſdiction.

Mr Fox coincided with the Chancellor of the Exchequer as to the propriety of ſuffering the pamphlet to remain on the table for the peruſal of the Houſe, before any motion was made reſpecting it, other than "that the ſaid pamphlet be taken into conſideration to-morrow," which he moved accordingly, and which was unanimouſly agreed to.

On the 15th, Mr Fox moved, that the pamphlet intitled, "A Review of the Charges againſt Warren Haſtings, Eſq;" was a groſs and audacious libel againſt his Majeſty, and on the proceedings of that Houſe on the impeachment of Warren Haſtings.

Mr Pitt ſaid, that on a peruſal of the pamphlet, he ſtill retained the opinion, that it contained libellous matter, and of a moſt heinous tendency. He could not agree, however, with the Right Hon. mover of the reſolution, that there was ſufficient ground to accuſe the writer of the pamphlet of a libel on the Sovereign. That charge was founded on a paſſage where the writer had ſaid, "that no abilities however great—no ſituation however exalted—no ſervices however beneficial or meritorious—not even the ſmiles of the Sovereign, nor the approbation of the people, can protect a Britiſh ſubject from impeachment, nor ſave a delinquent from puniſhment, if found guilty."—From this language it did not appear to be inſinuated, that the ſmiles of his Majeſty were extended to Mr Haſtings in his preſent ſituation. It was no libel to ſay that Mr Haſtings had enjoyed the royal favour before any charge had been made againſt him. Not wiſhing therefore to take upon light grounds a matter of ſo much importance, he ſhould move, that the words "on his Majeſty," &c. ſhould be expunged from the motion.

On the queſtion being put, Mr Pitt's amendment was agreed to, Ayes 131, Noes 66.

Mr Fox then moved, That an addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to direct his Attorney-General to proſecute the author, printer, and publiſher of ſaid libel. Ordered.

NEW

NEW BOOKS.

Tranſactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. vol I. 4*to*. 1 *l*. 5 *s*. *boards*. Dickſon, *Edinburgh*; Cadell, *London*.

THE following hiſtory of the Society is given in the Introduction to this firſt volume of their Tranſactions.

"The inſtitution of ſocieties of learned men who have united their labours for the cultivation of philoſophy or of literature, is of an ancient date in ſeveral poliſhed nations of Europe. It is, however, for the honour of Great Britain to have ſet the firſt example of an inſtitution for theſe purpoſes, incorporated by charter from the Sovereign, and carrying on its reſearches under his patronage. A hint of this kind, to the Prince then reigning, is found in the works of Lord Bacon, who recommends, as one of the *opera vere baſilica*, the eſtabliſhment of Academies or Societies of learned men, who ſhould give, from time to time, a regular account to the world of their reſearches and diſcoveries. It was the idea of this great philoſopher, that the learned world ſhould be united, as it were, in one immenſe republic, which, though conſiſting of many detached ſtates, ſhould hold a ſtrict union, and preſerve a mutual intelligence with each other, in every thing that regarded the common intereſt. The want of this union and intelligence he laments as one of the chief obſtacles to the advancement of ſcience; and, juſtly conſidering the inſtitution of public ſocieties, in the different countries of Europe, under the auſpices of the Sovereign, to be the beſt remedy for that defect, he has given, in his fanciful work of the *New Atlantis*, the delineation of a Philoſophical Society, on the moſt extended plan, for the improvement of all arts and ſciences; a work which, though written in the language, and tinctured with the colouring of romance, is full of the nobleſt philoſophic views. The plan of Lord Bacon, which met with little attention from the age in which he lived, was deſtined to produce its effect in a period not very diſtant. The ſcheme of a *Philoſophical College*, by Cowley, is acknowledged to have had a powerful influence in procuring the eſtabliſhment of the Royal Society of London, by charter from Charles II.; and Cowley's plan is manifeſtly copied, in almoſt all its parts, from that in the *New Atlantis*. The inſtitution of the Royal Society of London was ſoon followed by the eſtabliſhment of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris; and theſe two have ſerved as models to the Philoſophical Academies of higheſt reputation in the other kingdoms of Europe.

In Scotland, ſimilar aſſociations for the advancement of ſcience and of literature have, even without the benefit of Royal patronage, and with no other ſupport than the abilities of their members, attained to no common degree of reputation.

In Edinburgh, a Society was inſtituted in 1731, for the improvement of medical knowledge, by collecting and publiſhing Eſſays and Obſervations on the various branches of Medicine and Surgery, written by the members themſelves, or communicated to them. The Secretary of this Society was the elder Dr Alexander Monro, the firſt profeſſor of Anatomy in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, and the founder of the medical ſchool which has ſince attained to ſuch eminence and celebrity. Under his care, the tranſactions of this Society were publiſhed at different periods, in five volumes 8vo, with the title of *Medical Eſſays and Obſervations*, &c.; a work which has undergone many editions, which has been tranſlated into many foreign languages, and is honoured with the encomium of Haller, as one of the moſt uſeful books in the ſciences of Medicine, Anatomy, and Surgery.

Soon after the publication of the abovementioned volumes of Medical Eſſays, *viz*. in 1739, the celebrated Mr Maclaurin, Profeſſor of Mathematics in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, conceived the idea of enlarging the plan of this Society, by extending it to ſubjects of Philoſophy and Literature. The inſtitution was accordingly new-modelled by a printed ſet of laws and regulations, the number of members was increaſed, and they were diſtinguiſhed, from that time, by the title of *The Society for improving Arts and Sciences*, or, more generally by the title of *The Philoſophical Society of Edinburgh*. They choſe for their Preſident James Earl of Morton, afterwards Preſident of the Royal Society of London: Sir John Clerk of Pennycuik, one of the Barons of Exchequer, and Dr John Clerk, were elected Vice-preſidents; and Mr Maclaurin and Dr Plummer Secretaries of the inſtitution. The ordinary members were ſome of the moſt diſtinguiſhed men of letters in Scotland at that time.

A few years after the Society had received its new form, its meetings were interrupted, for a conſiderable ſpace of time, by the diſorders of the country during the rebellion in 1745; and no ſooner was the public tranquility re-eſtabliſhed, than it ſuffered a ſevere loſs by the death of Mr Maclaurin, whoſe comprehenſive genius, and ardour in the purſuits of ſcience, peculiarly qualified him for conducting the buſineſs of an inſtitution of this nature. The meetings of the Society, however, were renewed about the year 1752; and the new Secretaries, who were the celebrated Mr David Hume and Dr Alexander Monro *junior*, were directed to arrange and prepare for the preſs ſuch papers as were judged worthy of being ſubmitted to the public eye. The firſt volume of the Tranſactions of the Philoſophical Society of Edinburgh was accordingly publiſhed in 1754, under the title of *Eſſays and Obſervations Phyſical and Literary*; the ſecond volume was publiſhed in 1756, and the third in 1771.

It has been always obſerved, that inſtitutions of this kind have their intervals of langour, as well as their periods of brilliancy and activity. Every aſſociated body muſt receive its vigour from a few zealous and ſpirited individuals, who find a pleaſure in that ſpecies of buſineſs, which, were it left to the care of the members in general, would be often reluctantly ſubmitted to, and always negligently executed. The temporary avocations, and, ſtill more, the deaths of ſuch men, have the moſt ſenſible effect on the ſocieties to which they belonged. The principle of activity which animated them, if not utterly extinguiſhed, remains long dormant, and a kindred genius is required to call it forth into life.

From cauſes of this kind, the Philoſophical Society of Edinburgh, though its meetings were not altogether diſcontinued, appears to have languiſhed for ſome time, till about the year 1777, when its meetings became more frequent, and, from the uncommon zeal and diſtinguiſhed abilities of the late Henry Home, Lord Kames, at that time elected Preſident of the inſtitution, its buſineſs was conducted with renewed ardour and ſucceſs.

About the end of the year 1782, in a meeting of the profeſſors of the Univerſity of Edinburgh, many of whom were likewiſe members of the Philoſophical Society, and warmly attached to its intereſts, a ſcheme was propoſed by the Reverend Dr Robertſon, Principal of the Univerſity, for the eſtabliſhment of a New Society on a more extended plan, and after the model of ſome of the foreign Academies, which have for their object the cultivation of every branch of ſcience, erudition, and taſte. It appeared an expedient meaſure to ſolicit the Royal Patronage to an inſtitution of this nature, which promiſed to be of national importance, and to requeſt an eſtabliſhment by charter from the Crown. The plan was approved and adopted; and the Philoſophical Society, joining its influence as a body, in ſeconding the application from the Univerſity, his Majeſty was moſt graciouſly pleaſed to incorporate the Royal Society of Edinburgh by charter.

The firſt general meeting of the Royal Society of Edinburgh was held, in terms of that charter, on Monday the 23d day of June 1783, and the Right Hon. Thomas Millar of Barſkimming, Lord Juſtice-Clerk, was choſen Preſident of the meeting.

It was then unanimouſly reſolved, That all the members of the Philoſophical Society of Edinburgh ſhould be aſſumed as members of the Royal Society: And it was likewiſe reſolved, That the Lords of Council and Seſſion, the Barons of Exchequer for Scotland, and a ſelect number of other gentlemen, ſhould be invited to a participation of the Society's labours.

At the ſecond general meeting, the Secretary gave in a liſt of thoſe noblemen and gentlemen who had accepted of the invitation to become members. He alſo informed the meeting, that he had been directed by the Vice preſident and members of the Philoſophical Society of Edinburgh, to deliver their minute-book, and all ſuch diſſertations and papers as were in their Secretary's hands, to the Royal Society. The minute-book and papers were accordingly received, and given in charge to the General Secretary. . . . .

The compilation of the printed tranſactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh is to be made in the following manner: The papers read at the monthly meetings, and depoſited in the hands of the Secretaries of the two claſſes, are ſubjected to the review of *the Committee for Publication*, which conſiſts of the Preſident, Vice-preſidents, and Council, the general Secretary and Treaſurer of the Society, together with the Preſidents and Secretaries of the two claſſes: this Commit-

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tee makes a ſelection of papers, and determines the order in which they are to be publiſhed. It is not, however, to be underſtood, that thoſe papers which do not appear in the tranſactions of the Society are thought unfit for the public eye. Several papers have been communicated with the ſole view of furniſhing an occaſional entertainment to the members; and that end being anſwered, have been withdrawn by their authors: Eſſays, obſervations, and caſes, are often read at the meetings of the Society, in order to obtain the opinions of the members on intereſting or intricate ſubjects: ſome papers intended for a future publication have been withdrawn for the preſent by their authors, in order to profit by what has occurred in the converſations which the reading of the papers has ſuggeſted; and others, of acknowledged merit, the Committee has found it neceſſary to reſerve for a ſubſequent volume. Nor is the publication of any paper to be conſidered as expreſſing any concurrence in opinion with the author: it only intimates that the Committee judges the paper to be worthy of public notice, on account of the uſeful information it contains, the hints which it may ſuggeſt, or the ingenuity which it diſplays."

Among the papers of the phyſical claſs is the following abſtract of an Eſſay on Inſtinct, by Mr William Smellie, read, Dec. 5. 1785. As the paper is part of a larger work which he is preparing to lay before the public, he did not wiſh it to appear at full length among the diſſertations in this volume; for which reaſon the following abſtract is only given of its principal contents.

"Many theories have been invented with a view to explain the inſtinctive actions of animals, but none of them have received the general approbation of philoſophers. This want of ſucceſs may be referred to different cauſes; to want of attention to the general œconomy and manners of animals; to miſtaken notions concerning the dignity of human nature; and, above all, to the uniform endeavour of philoſophers to diſtinguiſh inſtinctive from rational motives. Mr Smellie endeavours to ſhow that no ſuch diſtinction exiſts, and that the reaſoning faculty itſelf is a neceſſary reſult of inſtinct.

He obſerves, that the proper method of inveſtigating ſubjects of this kind, is to collect and arrange the facts which have been diſcovered, and to conſider whether theſe lead to any general concluſions. According to this method, he exhibits examples, *Firſt*, of pure inſtincts: *Secondly*, of ſuch inſtincts as can accommodate themſelves to particular circumſtances and ſituations: *Thirdly*, of ſuch as are improveable by experience or obſervation: And, *Laſtly*, he draws ſome concluſions.

By pure inſtincts are meant ſuch as, independently of all inſtruction or experience, inſtantaneouſly produce certain actions, when particular objects are preſented to animals, or when they are influenced by peculiar feelings. Such are, in the human ſpecies, the inſtinct of ſucking, which is exerted by the infant immediately after birth, the voiding of fæces, the retraction of the muſcles upon the application of any painful ſtimulus. The love of light is exhibited by infants, even ſo early as the third day after birth. The paſſion of fear is diſcoverable in a child at the age of two months.

Among the inferior animals, there are numberleſs pure inſtincts. Caterpillars ſhaken off a tree in every direction, turn immediately to the trunk, and climb up. Young birds open their mouths on hearing any noiſe, as well as that of their mother's voice. Every ſpecies of inſect depoſits its eggs in the ſituation moſt proper for hatching and affording nouriſhment to its future progeny. Some ſpecies of animals look not to future wants; others, as the bee and the beaver, are endowed with an inſtinct which has the appearance of foreſight. They conſtruct magazines, and fill them with proviſions. Bees diſplay various remarkable inſtincts. They attend and feed the female or queen. When deprived of her, all their labours ceaſe till a new one is obtained. They conſtruct cells of three different dimenſions; for working bees, for drones, and for females; and the queen, in depoſiting her eggs, puts each ſpecies into its appropriated cells. They deſtroy all the females but one, leſt the hive ſhould be overſtocked. The different inſtincts of the common bee, of the wood-piercing bee, and of that ſpecies which builds cylindrical neſts, with roſe-leaves, are very remarkable.

Equally ſingular are the inſtincts of waſps, and ichneumon flies, which, tho' they feed not themſelves upon worms, lay up ſtores of theſe animals for the nouriſhment of their young.

Birds build their neſts of the ſame materials, and in the ſame form and ſituation,

tion, though they inhabit very different climates. They turn and ſhift their eggs, that they may be equally heated. Geeſe and ducks cover up their eggs till they return to the neſt. The ſwallow ſolicits her young to void their excrement over the neſt, and aſſiſts them in the operation. The ſpiders, and many inſects of the beetle-kind, when put in terror, counterfeit death. This is not, as has been ſuppoſed, a convulſion or ſtupor, but an artifice; for when the object of terror is removed, they recover immediately.

Of inſtincts which can accommodate themſelves to peculiar circumſtances and ſituations, many inſtances may be given from the human ſpecies; but theſe being improveable, fall more properly under the third claſs.

Thoſe animals are moſt perfect, whoſe ſphere of knowledge extends to the greateſt number of objects. When interrupted in their operations, they know how to reſume their labours, and to accompliſh their purpoſes by different means. Some animals have no other power but that of contracting or extending their bodies. But the falcon, the dog, and the fox, purſue their prey with intelligence and addreſs.

In Senegal, the oſtrich ſits upon her eggs only during the night, leaving them in the day to the heat of the ſun. At the Cape of Good Hope, where the heat is not ſo great, ſhe ſits upon them day and night. Rabbits, when domeſticated, are not inclined to burrow. Bees augment the depth of their cells, and increaſe their number, as occaſion requires. A waſp carrying out a dead companion from the neſt, if he finds it too heavy, cuts off the head, and carries out the load in two portions. In countries infeſted with monkies, birds, which in other countries build in buſhes or cleſts of trees, ſuſpend their neſts at the end of ſlender twigs. The nymphæ of water-moths, which cover themſelves with caſes of ſtraw, gravel, or ſhells, contrive to make their caſes nearly in equilibrium with the water: when too heavy, they add a bit of wood or ſtraw; when too light, a bit of gravel. A cat, when ſhut into a cloſet, has been known to open the latch with its paws.

The third claſs of inſtincts comprehends all thoſe that are improveable by experience and obſervation.

The ſuperiority of man over the other animals, ſeems to depend chiefly on the great number of inſtincts with which he is endowed. Traces of every inſtinct which he poſſeſſes are diſcoverable in the brute-creation, but no particular ſpecies enjoys the whole. On the contrary, moſt animals are limited to a ſmall number. This appears to be the reaſon why the inſtincts of brutes are ſtronger, and more ſteady in their operation, than thoſe of man, and their actions more uniform.

Moſt human inſtincts receive improvement from experience and obſervation, and are capable of a thouſand modifications. One inſtinct counteracts and modifies another, and often extinguiſhes the original motive to action. The inſtinct of fear is often counteracted by ambition and by reſentment: The inſtinct of anger, by fear, by ſhame, by contempt, by compaſſion. Of modified, compounded, and extended inſtincts, there are many examples. Devotion is an extenſion of the inſtinct of love, to the firſt Cauſe, or Author of the Univerſe. Superſtition is the inſtinct of fear extended to imaginary objects of terror. Hope is the inſtinct of love directed to future good. Avarice is the inſtinct of love directed to an improper object. Fear is likewiſe an ingredient of this attachment. Envy is compounded of love, avarice, ambition, and fear. Sympathy is the inſtinct of fear transferred to another perſon, and reflected back upon ourſelves. In this manner all the modified, compounded, or extended paſſions of the human mind, may be traced back to their original inſtincts.

The inſtincts of brutes are likewiſe improved by obſervation and experience. Of ſuch improvement, the dog, the elephant, the horſe, the camel, afford numerous and ſtrong inſtances.

From theſe and other examples, given of the different claſſes of inſtincts, Mr Smellie argues, that inſtinct is an original quality of mind, which, in man, as well as in other animals, may be improved, modified, and extended, by experience.

Senſation implies a ſentient principle or mind. Whatever feels, therefore, is mind. Of courſe, the loweſt ſpecies of animals is endowed with mind. But the minds of animals have very different powers; and theſe powers are expreſſed by peculiar actions. The ſtructure of their bodies is uniformly adapted to the powers of their minds; and no natural animal attempts actions which nature has not

not enabled it to perform: The inſtincts, however, of animals, appear often previouſly to the expanſion of thoſe inſtruments which nature intended they ſhould employ. This view of inſtinct is ſimple: It removes every objection to the exiſtence of mind in brutes, and unfolds all their actions by referring them to motives perfectly ſimilar to thoſe by which man is actuated. There is perhaps a greater difference between the mental powers of ſome animals, than between thoſe of man and the moſt ſagacious brutes. Inſtincts may be conſidered as ſo many internal ſenſes, of which ſome animals have a greater, and others a ſmaller number. Theſe ſenſes in different ſpecies, are likewiſe more or leſs ductile; and the animals poſſeſſing them are, of courſe, more or leſs ſuſceptible of improving, and of acquiring knowledge.

The notion, that animals are machines, is therefore too abſurd to merit refutation. Tho' not endowed with mental powers equal to thoſe of man, they poſſeſs, in ſome degree, every faculty of the human mind. Senſation, memory, imagination, the principle of imitation, curioſity, cunning, ingenuity, devotion, or reſpect for ſuperiors, gratitude, are all diſcoverable in the brute-creation. Every ſpecies too has a language, either of ſounds or geſtures, ſufficient for the individuals to communicate their wants to each other; and ſome animals underſtand in part the language of man. The language of infants is nearly on a par with that of brutes. Brutes, without ſome portion of reaſon, could never make a proper uſe of their ſenſes. But many animals are capable of balancing motives, which is a pretty high degree of reaſon. Young animals examine all objects they meet with, and in this inveſtigation they employ all their organs. The firſt periods of their life are dedicated to ſtudy. When they run about and make frolickſome gambols, it is nature ſporting with them for their inſtruction. Thus they gradually improve their faculties, and acquire an intimate knowledge of the objects that ſurround them. Men who, from peculiar circumſtances, have been prevented from mingling with companions, and engaging in the different amuſements and exerciſes of youth, are always awkward in their movements, cannot uſe their organs with eaſe or dexterity, and often continue, during life, ignorant of the moſt common objects."

The London Medical Journal for the year 1787. Part. 4. 8vo. Johnſon.

THE firſt in this volume is a caſe of an extra-uterine fœtus, communicated in a letter to Dr Simmons, by Michael Underwood, M. D. licentiate in midwifery of the royal college of phyſicians, and phyſician to the Britiſh lying-in hoſpital in London.

This curious narrative relates to a woman who, for the ſpace of forty years, continued to void the bones of an extra-uterine fœtus. As the facts are very intereſting, and cannot eaſily be abridged, we ſhall give an account of them in the author's own words:

"Mrs Sheppard, of Snow-Hill, London, naturally a healthy woman, rather under the middle ſize, muſcular, but not inclined to be corpulent, was married in 1731, being then in her twenty-third year. She ſoon became pregnant, and miſcarried at the end of ten weeks. She after this miſcarried five or ſix times at nearly the ſame period of geſtation.

In 1738, when in her thirtieth year, ſhe again proved with child, and went on well till ſhe had quickened. Unfortunately, at the end of five months, being violently frightened, ſhe fainted away, and, upon her recovery, felt ſomething (as ſhe expreſſed it) break within her, and from that period was for a conſiderable time ſubject to returns of the fainting. She continued, however, to increaſe in bulk, and at the end of nine months, being affected with the grinding pains of labour, ſhe ſent for a midwife, who, though ſhe could not diſcover any opening of the os uteri, was fully perſuaded that the abdominal tumor was owing to an enlargement of the womb. The pains continued to increaſe next day, but without producing any viſible change in the os uteri. Dr Bamber and other phyſicians being conſulted, internal medicines and clyſters were exhibited; notwithſtanding all which, ſhe continued in racking torture for four days, when ſhe fell aſleep, and ſoon after awaked eaſy. During the following night ſhe was affected with repeated faintings, and milk was then found to be in her breaſts. She continued for a ſhort time to be tolerably eaſy, but ſoon had ſome returns of pain, and, for the firſt time, perceived a black, fœtid, bloody diſcharge from the vagina, which laſted four or five days; and during the five

ſucceeding

ſucceeding weeks ſhe had repeated appearances of this kind, attended at times with violent pains, and a diſcharge of coagula, reſembling pieces of fleſh. The ſwelling of the abdomen began gradually to diminiſh after the firſt diſcharge, and at the time the patient got abroad (which was two years after) was reduced to half the former ſize, and continued diminiſhing for the three ſucceeding years; during all which time ſhe had painful diſcharges at irregular periods, and paſſed ſeveral of theſe ſolid coagula, which the byſtanders imagined (contrary to the opinion of the medical gentlemen) to be parts of a placenta.

After theſe five years ſhe paſſed no more ſolid coagula, but had the catamenia regularly, though painfully, and diſcoloured, for about two years more. In her thirty-ſeventh year, viz. in 1745, ſhe thought herſelf breeding again, as ſhe increaſed gradually in bulk, as before, to what ſhe thought her full term of nine months, when being ſeized with labour-pains, which continued regularly for a whole day together, her midwife pronounced her to be certainly with child, but without any appearance of natural labour.

She continued to be harraſſed with grinding pains, equally ineffectual, and frequently attended with ſome diſcharge, every fortnight or three weeks, for about two years; after which ſhe was attended by the late Sir William Watſon, who continued to viſit her occaſionally the five ſucceeding years, during all which time the enlargement of the abdomen remained, and the pains frequently returned. He procured her temporary relief by opiates and clyſters; but her complaints always recurring, ſhe conſulted the late Dr Ward, who gave her repeatedly half of one of his ſweating powders, which at firſt relieved her, but after the fourth doſe brought on violent pain of four hours continuance; after which ſhe fell aſleep, and when ſhe awaked was free of pain. In a week afterwards ſhe found herſelf better, her abdomen gradually ſubſiding, and her breathing becoming eaſier. The menſes now returned more regularly, and to greater quantity, and in ſix months ſhe was reduced to her natural ſize. She had nevertheleſs, her uſual and violent pains at times for about thirteen years.

About a year after the ſwelling of the abdomen had diſappeared, ſhe menſtruated more ſparingly, and at longer intervals, and began again to feel an increaſe of the abdomen, which continued for near nine months, and then gradually diſappeared.

She had, after this, three more enlargements of the abdomen, of a ſhorter continuance, during the above thirteen years, but had no milk in her breaſts, as in the two former of three and ſeven years.

At the expiration of theſe thirteen years from the ſecond ſuppoſed pregnancy, after ſuffering pains for ſeveral days, ſhe was ſeized, while ſitting on the cloſe-ſtool, with one more violent than uſual, and paſſed ſomething with great difficulty by the anus, which was found to be the rib of a fœtus. This was in the year 1759, about twenty-one years from her fright during pregnancy. The menſes had then left her about twelve months. From this time ſome bones came away every two or three days for ſeveral weeks, but with more eaſe than the firſt, and ſhe was able in about five weeks to walk about the houſe, but could not for three years walk half a mile. During all this time ſome bones came away every two or three weeks; but after that time ſhe remained eaſy for a quarter or half a year, without parting with any, and then gradually recovered a conſiderable degree of ſtrength. The bones ſhe voided ſeemed to be thoſe of a fœtus of about five months growth, and were thoſe of the ribs, ſcapula, and vertebræ, all of which were paſſed previouſly to the beginning of the year 1770, when I firſt ſaw her, and received from her the above narrative. At this time ſome bones were coming away every three or four days, but with leſs pain than formerly, and I found her, upon the whole, in tolerable good health. During the early part of the year 1771 ſhe voided but few, but towards the cloſe of it paſſed near twenty pieces of bone with conſiderable pain, and ſhe never could walk to any diſtance without ſuffering by it. After this ſhe voided very little bone till towards the end of the year following, when, falling down ſtairs, ſhe bruiſed the os coccygis, which occaſioned pain every time ſhe went to ſtool. Before this fall ſhe had got free of thoſe bearing-down pains which ſhe had been ſo long ſubject to; but after that ſhe had more conſtant pain, though not ſo violent. Several more pieces of bone were paſſed about this period.

During

During the space of two years after this fall she continued to void pieces of bone with much less trouble, and had frequent intervals of ease for months together, which enabled her to recover her strength in a great measure, though she never was so easy as before the accident.

Towards the latter end of the year 1774 she was become pretty easy, and, by computation, it was found she had passed in the last fifteen years, about three hundred small pieces of bone, and half as many larger, which last were very thin. At the beginning of 1775 she brought on a painful disorder of her bowels by an advertised purging pill, and after this she passed several pieces of bone, and particularly one, which seemed to be an exfoliation of the ileum, near two inches long.

In the course of the next year, 1776, many small bones were voided; but after this she remained upwards of a year without passing any, and again recovered her health and strength in a great degree.

After this she no longer passed any large pieces of bone, but sometimes smaller ones, without any other trouble, however, than that of some uneasiness when she allowed herself to become costive.

In 1778, when she had arrived at the age of seventy years, she received a considerable accession of fortune, which (owing probably to a frame enervated by forty years suffering) so changed her temper, and deranged her mind, that she became peevish, emaciated, restless, and very soon after maniacal. She continued in that state till her death, which happened not long ago; and having been removed into the country when she lost her senses, there was no opportunity of examining the body."

Observations relative to Picturesque Beauty, made in the year 1772, on several parts of England, particularly the Mountains and Lakes of Cumberland and Westmoreland. Edit. 2. By William Gilpin, M. A. Prebendary of Salisbury, and Vicar of Boldre. 2 vols. with the plates. 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d. boards.* Blamire.

TO the extracts given in last year's Magazine from the first edition of this entertaining work, we shall only now add, Mr Gilpin's curious account of the celebrated echoes at Ulleswater, situated between the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland.

The Duke of Portland, who has property in the neighbourhood of Ulleswater, has a vessel on the lake, with brass guns, for the purpose of exciting echoes. On these occasions, says Mr Gilpin, "a cannon is distinctly reverberated six or seven times. It first rolls over the head, in one vast peal. Then subsiding a few seconds, it rises again, in a grand interrupted burst, perhaps on the right.—Then the sound rises again on the left.—Thus thrown from rock to rock, in a sort of aerial perspective, it is caught again, perhaps, by some nearer promontory; and returning full on the ear, surprises you, after you thought all had been over, with as great a peal as at first.

But the grandest effect of this kind, is produced by a successive discharge of cannon, at the interval of a few seconds between each discharge. The effect of the first is not over, when the echoes of the second, the third, or perhaps of the fourth, begin. Such a variety of awful sounds, mixing and commixing, and at the same moment heard from all sides, have a wonderful effect on the mind; as if the very foundations of every rock on the lake were giving way, and the whole scene, from some strange convulsion, were falling into general ruin."

An epitome of the historic Contents of a Book printed in the last century, intitled, "The Court and Character of Elizabeth Boucher, commonly called Protectress Joan, inquired into. 12*mo.*

THE person of the Protectress is represented as very corpulent, and her disposition as most sordidly avaricious. That she wore a hood and some light armour. That her retinue, for a long time, when she went abroad, consisted only of one of Oliver's horse-boys, who ran by her side, though her daughters were attended by tire-women and perfumers. That she afterwards purchased a second-hand coach; and that her coachman acted the part of caterer, butler, serving man, and gentleman-usher. That her horses were probably old troopers, and had out of the army; and that her livery stood at the state's expence. That she was loaded with presents; and that her house in London was a kind of exchange; and that no money was stirring any where else. That she amassed great quantities of jewels, medals, &c. from the plunder of various houses, Basingstoke in particular;

where the ſoldiery, by threats and ſmall gratuities, were perſuaded to give up their plunder. That a cabal houſe was taken near Charing Croſs, where the ſectarian officers were treated with prayers, bread, butter, and ſmall beer. That a thankſgiving dinner was given by the city, and a piece of gold plate. That Oliver was very fond of oranges to veal, probably Seville; and that the Protectreſs refuſed four pence for one of theſe, juſt at the commencement of the war with Spain. That a poor woman, who had a very early growth of green peas, was perſuaded to preſent ſome to the Protectreſs at Whitehall; that ſhe refuſed an angel for them by a cook in the Strand; and that upon her murmuring at five ſhillings from her Highneſs for the ſame, they were returned, with ſome ſevere remarks upon the luxury of the times. That they ſettled at Whitehall in the year 1653. Whitehall, at this time, inhabited by near an hundred families of the anarchy. All commanded to depart, by order of Council. Little apartments, winding ſtairs, and trap-doors, made by her order; ſhe never enduring to be alone, or whiſperings. The names of the apartments changed. Mr. Starkey, a cook, accuſed of drunkenneſs by her; brought before Oliver; vomits in his preſence; and is diſcharged. Oliver a great enemy to compound diſhes. She (the Protectreſs) keeps three cows in St James's Park; erects a dairy at Whitehall, and makes butter with her maids. No men-ſervants attendant in the houſe, but a choſen band of halberdiers. She employed ſix maids, or ſpinſters, all miniſters daughters, at ſewing, ſtitching, &c. in her privy chamber. They drank a ſmall ale called Morning Dew, then common in London, at 7s. 6d. a-barrel. Oliver's predilection for that hinders her from eſtabliſhing a brew-houſe. That ſhe had a cuſtom of roaſting half-capons, and that her niggardly temper terminated in an inquiry into the profits of the kitchen ſtuff, which ſhe exchanged for candles. The reaſon ſhe gave for her parſimony was the ſmall allowance for the maintenance of the houſehold, which was barely 64,000 pounds per annum, till Col. Philip Jones came to be comptroller of the houſehold, when the weekly charge was 1923 pounds odd money; the defalcation of the reſt, from the juſt ſum of 2000l. at the rate of a hundred thouſand pounds yearly, making up the 4000l. for the two weeks above the 50; ſo exactly was this charge computed, to prevent deceit and any colluding practices. Her order of eating and meal times was not leſs regulated: for, firſt of all, at the ringing of a bell, dined the halberdiers, or men of the guard, with the inferior officers, &c. then, the bell ringing again, the ſteward's table was ſet in the ſame hall, near the water ſtairs, for the better ſort, who waited on her Highneſs; ten of whom were appointed to a table or meſs. To theſe, and their friends or viſitors, were appointed the value of ten ſhillings in fleſh or fiſh, with one bottle of ſack and two of claret; but, to prevent after-comers from expecting any thing in the kitchen, there was a general rule, that if any one was detained beyond dinner-time, upon notice given, the ſteward of the meſs ſhould ſet aſide his ſhare in the buttery. Suppers they had none; eggs, &c. contenting Oliver and her Ladyſhip: yet eight ſtone of beef was conſtantly boiled in the morning for the ſervants, the broth, &c. being given to the poor of St Margaret, Weſtminſter, every day. His feaſts were none of the moſt liberal, as that given the Parliament and French Ambaſſador, upon their congratulations upon the Sindercomb deliverance, only amounted to 1000l.; 200l. of which was ſaved in the banquet; when a big-bellied woman, a ſpectator, deſiring a few dry candies of apricots, Col. Pride threw into her apron a conſerve of wet: which ſtaining the ſame, as if it was a ſignal given, Oliver throws his napkin at Pride; he at him again; the noiſe and ſcuffle of which made all the members riſe up before the ſweetmeats, &c. were begun upon, who, thinking dinner was done, went to their rude gambols with his Highneſs, or remained ſpectators of this Ahab like feſtival.—All Oliver's debts, by her intrigue, were tranſferred to her ſons, Henry and Richard, who payed for his coſtly funeral; the very day of whoſe death, the guards ruſhed in at Whitehall, taking the meat, by force, off her Highneſs's table, and demanding their pay and arrears. This occaſioned her to tell Fleetwood, that he had brought his hogs to a fine market. Richard afterwards abſents himſelf, for debt, at Hurley, in Hampſhire, where his mother reſided with him. It was alſo obſerved, that there was a great deal of truth in a play written about that time, called "The Rump." *Gent. Mag.*

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Letters on Education. [p. 88.]

LETTER III.

SIR, *March* 18. 1786.

A Certain philoſopher of ancient Greece uſed frequently to go to an elevated ſituation of the city on the market-days, and call out to the people as they paſſed—"*If you wiſh for happineſs at home, or ſafety to the ſtate,*—EDUCATE YOUR CHILDREN" So ſay I: but my plan of education is fitted to the preſent ſtate of ſociety; and conſiderable alterations, it will be allowed, have taken place ſince the days of ancient Greece.

There is a book called the BIBLE, and particularly that part called the NEW TESTAMENT, which I utterly abhor. Pray keep it *carefully* out of your ſon's hands; for one does not know what paſſage may ſtrike his mind, and totally ruin the plan of making him a *fine fellow*. As you make little uſe of it yourſelf, except in the way of ridicule and witticiſm, there is no danger of its doing much harm; and the tutor (if you have made a right choice) will only uſe it to enable him to get a living without having any conviction of the truths it contains upon his heart. Never ſpeak to your ſon reſpecting his duty to God, to ſociety, or himſelf. Let all your precepts and example teach him to pleaſe himſelf, and gratify his paſſions, without regard to the rights of others.

It is delightful now-a-days to hear how my young friends ſpeak of *hell*. They mention it with as much familiarity as if it was their *father's houſe*; and, POOR THINGS! they ſhall always be welcome to my habitation. If a civil queſtion is aſked them, or if they invite a companion to go to any frolic, and he refuſes, they pleaſantly retort, *Go to hell*; that is no more than to ſay, *Go home*, where they will always find a *warm* reception.

Let your ſon ramble about where-ever he pleaſes, and particularly in the evenings (for I love works of darkneſs): and make no inquiries where he has been; for, if you do, you will not be much the wiſer. He will by this practice acquire a free, bold, and forward manner, much above his years, to the ſurpriſe of every ſerious thinking perſon. Let him aſſociate with what companions he pleaſes; and, as you have in your city a very *indulgent* police (or rather no police at all), he will find, at every ſtep, plenty of idle boys and girls, of all ages, on the ſtreet, ready for any frolic. Your late dinners, card-parties or public amuſements, no doubt, will put it out of your power to attend your ſon; but you need not think of him—by my plan, he will find amuſement for himſelf. If he comes home in the evening before the card-party is broke up, and his father ſhould chide him, let mamma obſerve (*betwixt the deals*) that really ſhe can ſee no good to be got by always poring over books. The child's health might ſuffer by confinement. Young maſter, hearing this once or twice, will ſoon learn as much artifice as to evade ever looking at a book. What ſignifies Greek and Latin, or knowledge, or morals, to a *fine gentleman?*

When the boy does any thing uncommonly

ly vicious or deceitful for his years, laugh at the frolic, for it ſhows *ſpunk*. Stroak his head upon ſuch occaſions, and call him, in a kindly tone, a *wicked little rogue*, or a *little pickle*. He will, from this treatment, every day improve; and *Pickle* will ſoon become a *very wicked dog indeed*. Do not reſtrict him from keeping company with the ſervants, or reading improving ballads with the maids; for he ſhould know all characters.

And now comes the time when the moſt neceſſary part of modern education ſhould be attended to, and that is DANCING. This is the period to form your ſon either a *pretty gentleman*, by ſome thick pated people called a *coxcomb*; or a *fine fellow*, not unfrequently termed a *blackguard*: but it is not unlikely you may ſucceed in making him a part of both, which is the moſt *faſhionable* of all characters. This branch of education he will probably be fonder of than any other; and therefore give him as much of it as he pleaſes, although all that is made of it now-a-days is to be able to *ſcamper* through a country dance. Gracefulneſs, elegance, and taſte are totally out of faſhion in dancing. Romping is the *ton*. The frolicking with the miſſes will pleaſe him *vaſtly*; and the *evening* pranks he will delight in.

Let mamma ſtudy now to dreſs him well, by giving him laced linen, the moſt faſhionable large buckles, handſome ſilk ſtockings, embroidered waiſtcoats, and every *taniſh* piece of dreſs in perfection. The father, if he is (what is called) a ſenſible man, will probably remonſtrate againſt all this finery, and reprobate dancing as only a frivolous and ſecondary accompliſhment: but the proper way of reaſoning for mothers is, to hold their as antiquated notions: "The poor fellow muſt be clean; and then it looks ſo *vaſtly pretty and genteel*, and the miſſes will be quite in love with him.—Had not Lord B——'s ſon ſuch a dreſs? and Sir R. S——'s ſon ſuch another?" Ten to one but the father may ſay—"People of rank's children are the moſt ſimply dreſſed." This, however, muſt be laughed at, and maſter will be indulged. When the ball comes about, the *dear boy* muſt have pocket-money; and ſurely nothing *repays* a young perſon more than plenty of pocket-money. The ſame ſort of father may perhaps ſay—"What occaſion has his ſon for money? he gets what is proper for him, and money he may put to improper purpoſes—All he can want at a ball is perhaps an orange."

But it muſt be anſwered, "poor thing! it makes him *ſo happy!* and then Maſter *Such a one* had ſo much money at the laſt ball, and people muſt be neighbour-like, you know. Not that I would give your ſon ſo much gold as"—"Gold!" perhaps the father will interrupt haſtily. "Why, Mrs Careful, who has the beſt bred ſons at the ſchool, gives them only ſixpence, and it is enough. There was but laſt year a parcel of your *pocket-money* BOYS had a hot ſupper and a drink, in a neighbouring tavern, inſtead of their bread and milk! Others again bought negus (which, by the way, ought always to be *permitted* at dancing-ſchool balls, and made ſtrong). And the conſequence of all this was, that a number of boys got drunk, diſturbed the company, and inſulted the girls."—The anſwer to this remonſtrance of the father is plain enough, *viz.* "Your dear boy is better bred, and will not do ſo; therefore give him the money, and make the boy happy."

If the father is a man of an eaſy temper, or one of the *ton*, who follows his own pleaſures, he will let the mother and the ſon do juſt as they pleaſe; and then all parties will be ſatisfied, which is what I wiſh.

By following this plan, which is now indeed very much practiſed, your ſon will be a MAN at twelve, and a boy all the reſt of his life. And as you mortals wiſh to remain young as long as you can, this ſyſtem cannot fail of being very agreeable. It would be tedious to ſuit this plan of education to every condition; but diſcerning parents will be eaſily able to apply the general principle to particular ſituations.

In my next, I ſhall introduce my young man a little more into life.

I am &c. BELZEBUB.

Authentic Anecdotes of ALEXANDER SELKIRK.

[The following anecdotes are taken form a paper in the Gentleman's Magazine, ſigned, H. D. which the author has written for the purpoſe of correcting the many miſtakes in an account of that extraordinary perſon, which appeared ſome time ago [See vol 49. p 528.] and for expoſing the attempt made to impoſe upon the public an ode written by the ingenious Mr Cowper, as an original compoſition of Selkirk during his ſolitude.]

ALexander Selkirk was born at Largo, in the county of Fife, about the year 1676, and was bred a ſeaman. He went from England, in 1703, in the capacity of ſailing-maſter of a ſmall veſſel called the Cinque-Ports Galley, Charles Pickering, captain, burthen about 90 tons, with 16 guns and 63 men; and in September the ſame year ſailed from Corke, in company with another ſhip of 26 guns and 120 men, called the St George, commanded by that famous navigator, William Dampier, intending to cruize on the Spaniards in the ſouth Sea. On the coaſt of Brazil, Pickering died, and was ſucceeded in his command by his

his lieutenant, Thomas Stradling. They proceeded on their voyage round Cape Horn, to the iſland of Juan Fernandes, whence they were driven by the appearance of two French ſhips, of 36 guns each, and left five of Stradling's men there on ſhore, who were taken off by the French. Hence they ſailed to the coaſt of America, where Dampier and Stradling quarrelled, and ſeparated by agreement, on the 19th of May 1704. In September following, Stradling came again to the iſland of Juan Fernandes, where Selkirk and his captain had a difference, which, with the circumſtance of the ſhip's being very leaky, and in bad condition, induced him to determine on ſtaying there alone; but when his companions were about to depart, his reſolution was ſhaken, and he deſired to be taken on board again. Happily for him, the captain then refuſed to admit him, and he was obliged to remain, having nothing but his cloaths, bedding, a gun, and a ſmall quantity of powder and ball; a hatchet, knife, and kettle; his books, and mathematical and nautical inſtruments. He kept up his ſpirits tolerably, till he ſaw the veſſel put off, when (as he afterwards related) his heart yearned within him, and melted at parting with his comrades and all human ſociety at once.

" ——— Yet believe me, Arcas,
Such is the rooted love we bear mankind,
All ruffians as they were, I never heard
A ſound ſo diſmal as their parting oars."
Thomſon's Agamemnon.

The Cinque-Ports was run on ſhore a few months afterwards. The captain and crew, to ſave their lives, ſurrendered themſelves priſoners to the Spaniards, who treated them ſo harſhly, that they were in a much worſe ſituation than Selkirk, and continued in it a longer time. Some months after Selkirk left the South Sea in the Duke privateer, Captain Stradling was ſent a priſoner to Europe on board a French ſhip, and by that means got to England. Thus left ſole monarch of the iſland, with plenty of the neceſſaries of life, he found himſelf in a ſituation hardly ſupportable. He had fiſh, goat's fleſh, turnips and other vegetables; yet he grew dejected, languid, and melancholy, to ſuch a degree, as to be ſcarce able to refrain from doing violence to himſelf. Eighteen months paſſed before he could, by reaſoning, reading his Bible, and ſtudy, be thoroughly reconciled to his condition. At length he grew happy, employing himſelf in decorating his huts, chaſing the goats, whom he equalled in ſpeed, and ſcarcely ever failed of catching. He alſo tamed young kids, laming them to prevent their becoming wild; and he kept a guard of tame cats about him, to defend him when aſleep from the rats, who were very troubleſome. When his clothes were worn out, he made others of goats ſkins, but could not ſucceed in making ſhoes, which, however, habit, in time, enabled him to diſpenſe with the uſe of. His only liquor was water. He computed that he had caught 1000 goats during his abode there; of which he had let go 500, after marking them by ſlitting their ears. Commodore Anſon's people, who were there about 30 years after, found the firſt goat which they ſhot upon landing was thus marked, and as it appeared to be very old, concluded that it had been under the power of Selkirk. But it appears by Capt. Carteret's account of his voyage in the Swallow ſloop, that other perſons practiſed this mode of marking, as he found a goat with his ears thus ſlit on the neighbouring iſland of Mas-a-fuera, where Selkirk never was. He made companions of his tame goats and cats, often dancing and ſinging with them. Though he conſtantly performed his devotions at ſtated hours, and read aloud; yet, when he was taken off the iſland, his language, from diſuſe of converſation, was become ſcarcely intelligible. In this ſolitude he continued four years and four months, during which time only two incidents happened which he thought worth relating, the occurrences of every day being in his circumſtances nearly ſimilar. The one was, that, purſuing a goat eagerly, he caught it juſt on the edge of a precipice, which was covered with buſhes, ſo that he did not perceive it, and he fell over to the bottom, where he lay (according to Capt. Rogers's account) 24 hours ſenſeleſs; but, as he related to Sir R. Steele, he computed, by the alteration of the moon, that he had lain three days. When he came to himſelf, he found the goat lying under him dead. It was with great difficulty that he could crawl to his habitation, whence he was unable to ſtir for ten days, and did not recover of his bruiſes for a long time. The other event was, the arrival of a ſhip, which he at firſt ſuppoſed to be French: and ſuch is the natural love of ſociety in the human

human mind, that he was eager to abandon his ſolitary felicity, and ſurrender himſelf to them, although enemies; but upon their landing, approaching them, he found them to be Spaniards, of whom he had too great a dread to truſt himſelf in their hands. They were by this time ſo near, that it required all his agility to eſcape, which he effected by climbing into a thick tree, being ſhot at ſeveral times as he ran off. Fortunately the Spaniards did not diſcover him, though they ſtayed ſome time under the tree where he was hid, and killed ſome goats juſt by. In this ſolitude Selkirk remained until the 2d of February 1709, when he ſaw two ſhips come into the bay, and knew them to be Engliſh. He immediately lighted a fire as a ſignal, and on their coming on ſhore, found they were the Duke, Capt. Rogers, and the Duchеſs, Capt. Courtney, two privateers from Briſtol. He gave them the beſt entertainment he could afford; and, as they had been a long time at ſea without freſh proviſions, the goats which he caught were highly acceptable. His habitation conſiſting of two huts, one to ſleep in, the other to dreſs his food in, was ſo obſcurely ſituated, and ſo difficult of acceſs, that only one of the ſhip's officers would accompany him to it. Dampier, who was pilot on board the Duke, and knew Selkirk very well, told Capt. Rogers, that, when on board the Cinque-Ports, he was the beſt ſeaman *on board that veſſel*; upon which Capt. Rogers appointed him maſter's mate of the Duke. After a fortnight's ſtay at Juan Fernandes, the ſhips proceeded on their cruize againſt the Spaniards; plundered a town on the coaſt of Peru; took a Manilla ſhip off California; and returned by way of the Eaſt Indies to England, where they arrived the 1ſt of October 1711; Selkirk having been abſent eight years, more than half of which time he had ſpent alone on the iſland. The public curioſity being excited reſpecting him, he was induced to put his papers into the hands of Defoe, to arrange, and form them into a regular narrative. Theſe papers muſt have been drawn up after he left Juan Fernandes, as he had no means of recording his tranſactions there. Capt. Cooke remarks, as an extraordinary circumſtance, that he had contrived to keep an account of the days of the week and month; but this might be done, as Defoe makes Robinſon Cruſoe do, by cutting notches in a poſt, or many other methods. From this account of Selkirk, Defoe took the idea of writing a more extenſive work, the romance of Robinſon Cruſoe, and very diſhoneſtly defrauded the original proprietor of his ſhare of the profits. I conclude this ſtory with Selkirk's obſervation to Sir R. Steele, only remarking, that it is a proof how apt we mortals are to imagine, that happineſs is to be found in any ſituation except that in which we happen to be. To uſe his own words, "I am now (ſays he) worth eight hundred pounds, but ſhall never be ſo happy as when I was not worth a farthing."

Subſtance of a Paper in the Philoſophical Tranſactions part. 2 for 1787 *intitled, Experiments made to determine the preſent and relative Quantities of Moiſture abſorbed from the Atmoſphere by various Subſtances under ſimilar Circumſtances. By Sir Benjamin Thompſon, Knight, F. R. S.*

THE ſubſtances employed in theſe experiments, were chiefly thoſe commonly uſed for clothing; ſheep's wool, beaver's fur, the fur of a Ruſſian hare, raw ſilk, ravelings of white taffety, cotton-wool, fine lint, and ravelings of fine linen. Theſe, ſpread on clean China plates, were kept 24 hours in the dry air of a warm room, which had been heated every day, for ſeveral months, by a German ſtove. Equal quantities of them, weighed on the ſpot in this dry ſtate, were ſet firſt in a large uninhabited room, on the ſecond floor, for 48 hours; and afterward in a cellar, where the air was of extreme humidity, for three days and nights. The ſheep's wool gained an increaſe, in the uninhabited room, of 84 parts, and, in the cellar, of 163 parts in 1000: the ravelings of linen increaſed only 44 in the former ſituation, and 82 in the latter: and the others gained intermediate quantities in the order in which they are above ſet down, except that the cotton-wool differed very little, and ſomewhat irregularly, from the linen, being *one more* in the uninhabited room, and *ſeven* leſs in the cellar.

Theſe reſults are the very reverſe of what might have been expected; for as linen is known to imbibe water with avidity, while wool, hair, and other like animal ſubſtances, are with difficulty made wet, it is natural to expect that linen would moſt powerfully abſorb moiſture from the atmoſphere; eſpecially when we conſider the apparent difference in the dampneſs of linen and woollen clothes, when they are both expoſed equally

qually to the ſame air. The experiments, however, ſhew the contrary; and that bodies which receive water itſelf with the greateſt eaſe are not always thoſe which attract its vapour with the greateſt force from the air.

It is probably in virtue of the ſtrong attraction which theſe experiments ſhew to ſubſiſt between wool and watery vapour, that woollen, worn next to the ſkin, ſo greatly promotes perſpiration, the perſpired fluid being freely abſorbed, and tranſmitted through it, and thus expoſed, by a large ſurface, to be carried off by the atmoſphere. The author is hence led to recommend, very earneſtly, the wearing of flannel next to the ſkin, having himſelf experienced great benefit from it, before he had any idea of diſcovering the phyſical cauſe. "I am aſtoniſhed," he ſays, "that this cuſtom ſhould not have prevailed more univerſally; I am confident it would prevent a multitude of diſeaſes; and I know of no greater luxury than the comfortable ſenſation which ariſes from wearing it, eſpecially after one is a little accuſtomed to it. It is a miſtaken notion, that it is too warm a clothing for ſummer: I have worn it in all climates, and in the hotteſt ſeaſons of the year, and never found the leaſt inconvenience from it. It is the warm bath of a perſpiration confined by a linen ſhirt, wet with ſweat, which renders the ſummer heats of ſouthern climates ſo inſupportable; but flannel promotes perſpiration, and favours evaporation; and evaporation, as is well known, produces poſitive cold."

An extraordinary Cure of a Cancer, by the Rev. Dr Bacon, by the uſe of Cleavers, or Clivers, in a Letter to a Friend.

AN aged woman in my pariſh, who had, what ſhe called, a bloody cancer, continuing to eat away the fleſh ſeveral years, had a relation at Abingdon, to which place ſhe went for the ſake of a ſurgeon, who could not come over to her. His viſits were an act of charity: and while ſhe was near him, he often called on her, and gave her his medicines, without any good effect: when, at laſt, deſpairing of a cure, ſhe was ſent home with the comfortable aſſurance, that ſhe would be eaſed of miſery in a fortnight or leſs. On her return to my pariſh, I was ſent for to pray by her, and never met with a more deplorable object in my life: nothing could be ſo offenſive as the ſmell, and nothing ſo terrible as her ſhrieks! Juſt at that time I had been deſired to write Dr Dillenius's diploma, our profeſſor of botany: and, to acquaint myſelf with ſome botanical expreſſions, referred to ſome books of that kind in our library at Magdalen college: and after I had finiſhed my compilement, I amuſed myſelf for ſome time with reading the virtues of ſeveral plants, and particularly Cleavers; and the manner I recommended, and which was ſtrictly followed by the patient, was as follows: She firſt took a common mercurial purge; was charged to abſtain from ſalt-meats, and to uſe only thin diets, and twice a-day between meals, to drink about a quarter of a pint of the juice of Cleavers, which ſhe got by pounding and ſqueezing them. At the ſame time, I directed her to take of the ſame juice boiled, and mixed with hog's-lard, ſo as to make a very ſoft green ointment, and conſtantly apply it to the wound, laying alſo the bruiſed Cleavers over it, and to refreſh it ſo often as it dried, taking particular care to keep the wound clean. This was immediately put in practice, and continued ſix months, partly by compulſion and importunity; for the benefit was ſo gradual, that I could hardly perſuade the woman ſhe was better for it. Indeed, I ſhould have been doubtful myſelf, but that the offenſive ſmell abated, and her being ſtill alive, were convincing proofs to me that a cure would in time be effected. Accordingly, I preſſed and inſiſted on her continuing the ſame practice; and, it being a very mild winter, the Cleavers were procured in warm hedges, the ſame courſe was purſued, and in three months after the wound was perfectly healed. I adviſed her to take them every ſpring after, which ſhe did, and thus prevented a return of her diſorder.

Inſtance of a Life preſerved after falling into a Coal-pit.

JOHN BOYS, a collier, employed in the coal works at Lanchester common, in the neighbourhood of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, going to his work very early one morning in the year 1763, and, according to cuſtom, on his turn to deſcend the ſhaft, in waiting to take out the aſcending hook, in order to his making a loop to introduce his thigh for that purpoſe, the pit, caſting up very ſtrongly a thick denſe vapour, deceived him in the attempts of laying hold thereof, and, by his throwing his centre of gravity, unſupported, too far over the mouth of the

ſhaft, he unfortunately fell to the bottom, a depth of 42 fathoms, or 84 yards.

Immediately on his falling, a cart was ſent for, to convey the body home, as no perſon had ever been known to ſurvive ſuch an accident to ſuch a depth; but to the great ſurpriſe of the other colliers, on his being ſent *to bank*, or drawn out of the pit, in a corf, and after having recovered in ſome degree from the violence of the fall, he was found on examination, neither to have a broken or diſlocated bone or joint, nor any external wounds, or even marks of contuſion; yet the delicate compages of the human frame had received ſuch a ſhock and derangement, from the momentum of his ſtriking the bottom, that he was never able afterwards to walk without the aſſiſtance of two ſticks.

He was a pretty jolly man at the time of the accident, of about 12 ſt. weight; and ſurvived it about 20 years, getting his livelihood by *cobling* old ſhoes, not being able to work longer in the coal pit.

Many people have attributed this very remarkable eſcape to the reſiſtance he met with in falling, from the force of the ſtrong *up-caſt* current of air in the pit having retarded the acceleration of his deſcent. But I think that reaſon of little conſequence; it ought rather to be attributed to his having fallen perpendicularly, and without having been daſhed and reverberated from ſide to ſide in the ſhaft (as generally happens when any thing is dropped down a pit), and from his having ſtruck the bottom in the moſt favourable poſition for the preſervation of his head, &c. &c. and the conſequent ſaving of his life.

It is very remarkable, that he broke the ſtrong chain on the rope at the bottom of the pit, conſiſting of links, made of round iron, near three quarters of an inch diameter. On his being aſked concerning his ſenſations during the fall, he ſaid he deſcended very ſmoothly; but, as his deſcent was confined only to a few ſeconds, it cannot be ſuppoſed that he could, during ſo ſhort a ſpace of time, employ the power of perception in any conſiderable degree. *Gent. Mag.*

Obſervations on the Statutes.

Jam vero illud ſtultiſſimum, exiſtimare omnia juſta eſſe quæ ſcita ſint in populorum inſtitutis aut legibus. Cic.

I Have often, Sir, been ſurpriſed, that among all the accounts and criticiſms of new books, with which our reviews and other periodical publications abound, we never meet with any mention of a volume which appears annually, and which every deſcription of perſons is much more intereſted to be well acquainted with, than even with the royal ſociety's annual volume of philoſophical tranſactions, or with the antiquaries biennial or triennial volume (I know not which) or the archæologia. I mean, Sir, the annual volume of the ſtatutes. I have the more wondered at this, not only on account of the bulk and importance of the work, but likewiſe becauſe I have never met with any compoſition which afforded more room for pointing out inconſiſtencies and grammatical errors (a ſort of criticiſm in which I obſerve reviewers particularly delight) than do the ſtatutes at large. The only way, Sir, in which I have been able to account with any degree of ſatisfaction to myſelf for this extraordinary omiſſion, is by ſuppoſing, that the reviewers, after reading this publication over and over again, in order to do their duty to the public, have found it altogether unintelligible. An inconvenience which they labour under in common with many other of his Majeſty's liege ſubjects, who are, however, bound to obey theſe ſame laws, under God knows what pains and penalties.

This, Sir, I conceive to be the only reaſon, why there is no work ſo little read, or ſo little talked of, as the public ſtatutes. I was indeed for a long time in this reſpect like the reſt of the world, and never thought of buying or reading ſo expenſive and dull a work; but happening accidentally to meet with two acts of parliament, by one of which I found that I might ſuffer a year's impriſonment for paſſing a bad ſhilling *, and by the other, that I might be hanged for breaking a weaver's ſhuttle †; and hearing too about the ſame time, that a new ſyſtem was adopted, by which our penal laws were to be rigorouſly enforced; I determined to ſet myſelf about reading all the ſtatutes without delay; for I had no deſire to make ſo long a voyage as to New South Wales, and had much rather die at ſome diſtant period in my bed, than very ſpeedily in the public ſtreets.

From the time, Sir, that I formed this

*15 and 16 Geo. II. c. 28.

† This law, which I make no doubt none of your readers ever heard of before, was made only ſix years ago. 22 G. III. c. 40.

reſolution,

reſolution, I have always regularly purchaſed the ſtatutes the moment they were printed, and have made it a conſtant rule never to ſtir out of my chamber after the King has once given his aſſent to any acts of parliament, till I have got them in my poſſeſſion, and have made myſelf maſter of them as far as lies in my power; leſt I ſhould unexpectedly find myſelf conveyed to the county jail for ſome offence, which I did not yet know had been created, or leſt my death ſhould be made to ſerve as a promulgation to the world of ſome new-born law.

It is true, that much of my time which has been thus employed, has been employed to very little purpoſe; for it has often happened, that after I have long ſtudied ſome new ſtatute, and have with great effort and incredible pains diſcovered, or perſuaded myſelf that I had diſcovered a meaning in it, the very next ſeſſion of parliament it has been either totally repealed, or perplexed and rendered quite unintelligible, by ſome act to explain and amend it. This habit however of thus poring over the ſtatutes has enabled me to underſtand them, I may ſay, (I think without vanity, and I am ſure without ſaying a great deal), better than moſt men. The ſenſe, Sir, of this ſuperiority, and a deſire that others may profit by my labours, have prompted me to make you a tender of my ſervices, and to offer to ſupply you every year with a review of the ſtatutes of the laſt preceding ſeſſion. That you may judge how I am qualified for ſuch an undertaking, I will immediately give you a ſpecimen, and begin without farther ceremony; but as I wiſh to begin with ſome *eclat*, you will I hope allow me to paſs over the laſt year, which afforded but a very ſcanty harveſt of legiſlation, it having produced, I think, only 95 ſtatutes: and to begin with the fruitful year 1786, which added 160 public acts of parliament to the ſtatute-book.

Thoſe of your readers who are ſo bold, or ſo thoughtleſs, as never to look into the ſtatutes, will no doubt be aſtoniſhed to hear that ſuch a number of laws (more undoubtedly than Solon or Lycurgus produced during their whole lives) ſhould be brought into exiſtence in one ſhort ſeſſion of parliament. Their aſtoniſhment however will ſomewhat abate, when they hear, that of theſe 160 public ſtatutes, 70 are ſo only in name, they being made to regulate the concerns of private families, or particular pariſhes. The ninety however which remain, form ſtill a number conſiderable enough to ſtartle thoſe who are novices in the ſcience of Engliſh legiſlation. I chuſe ſo to deſcribe it, becauſe the legiſlature of this country may certainly form a ſpecies by itſelf, and diff rs from that eſtabliſhed in any other ſtate either ancient or modern, as much as the ſyſtem of Tycho Brahe differs from all thoſe of all other aſtronomers. One, I repeat it, who is ignorant of this, muſt wonder at the capricious and innovating temper of a people, who, in the courſe of a few months, multiply their duties, reverſe their rules of property, and alter their conſtitution, by no leſs than 90 laws: but a better acquaintance with the ſubject will ſoon enable him to account for this multitude of ſtatutes.

It has been often ſaid of lawyers, that they poſſeſs a happy talent of creating employment for themſelves, and that one half of their profeſſion is occupied in correcting the blunders of the other. Our legiſlators ſeem to have improved upon this character; for it frequently happens, that one act of parliament creates a neceſſity of paſſing three or four others; and a great part of the time of our lawgivers is conſumed in elucidating their own obſcurity, and correcting their own miſtakes. Among the ſtatutes, for example, which we are now conſidering, there are no leſs than eighteen made to explain, amend, or rectify errors of former ſtatutes; nor does the inconvenience ſtop here, for as comments on obſcure writers frequently become themſelves a text for other commentators, ſo we ſometimes find, that theſe explanatory laws become themſelves the ſubject of explanation, and that theſe amendments require to be themſelves amended. Thus the 35th chapter of the ſtatutes now under review, is an act made to explain and amend an act made the preceding ſeſſion, to explain and amend an act made two ſeſſions before that: whether this explained explanation and amended amendment will in ſome future ſeſſion be further amended and explained, time only can diſcover.

They who know in what degree our penal laws have been of late years multiplied, will perhaps rejoice to find the activity of our legiſlators diverted to ſuch objects, and will be diſpoſed to exclaim

with Cato, upon a different occaſion,

——————*Macte*
Virtute eſto——————
Huc juvenes æquum eſt deſcendere.

Unfortunately, however, the legiſlature has, in the midſt of all theſe retroſpective occupations, found leiſure to paſs, beſides many other penal laws, no leſs than ſixteen ſtatutes, puniſhing certain frauds upon the revenue with death; five of them creating new offences; and the ſixth making an inferior degree of evidence to what was before held requiſite, ſufficient for a capital conviction.

It is impoſſible to obſerve the rapid increaſe of our penal laws, without being ſenſible that the time is not very far diſtant when it may be ſaid of England, as was ſaid two centuries ago by a very celebrated writer of a neighbouring country, *Il n'eſt ſi homme de bien qu'il mette a l'examen des loix toutes ſes actions et penſees, qui ne fut pendable dix fois en ſa vie.* Our legiſlators indeed ſeem fully ſenſible of this, and looking forward with a provident care to the approaching ſtate of this country, have deſerved the thanks of their ſucceſſors, by paſſing an act (the 43d of the ſtatutes which we are now conſidering) for the expreſs purpoſe of encouraging the growth of hemp.

But I perceive, Sir, that I have already trelpaſſed too long upon your time; I ſhall therefore here abruptly conclude, and reſerve, for a future occaſion, an examination of the particular ſtatutes of which I have at preſent only taken a general and a very curſory view.

SIR,

THE two following ſingular circumſtances of the feathered tribe are worth communicating to the public. The truth of them I can atteſt, myſelf being an eye-witneſs of them both.

The firſt happened about eighteen years back. Being ſome few days at the houſe of John Payne, farmer at Abbot's Langley, Herts, he told me he had a penſioner who daily paid him a viſit, whom I might ſee the next day about dinner-time (12 o'clock), if I would give myſelf the trouble. Accordingly I went into the garden with him at that time, when he took a bit of raw meat, and gave a loud whiſtle, holding out his hand, and immediately a large hawk flew down from one of the higheſt trees, and reſted upon his hand. When he was fed he flew away, and the farmer ſaw no more of him till the next day, at the uſual time. It is remarkable, he never could get him at any other time of the day, though often called. This had continued a long while.

The other was as follows: Having ſome buſineſs to do at Marſton, near Frome, Somerſetſhire, in the year 1778, the ſeat of the Earl of Corke, which employed me two months, I had daily opportunities of ſeeing it. It was a kite of the largeſt growth, who had taken up his reſidence in that nobleman's garden for three or four years back. He was the guardian of the place, and would ſuffer no ſort of marauders whatever to intrude on the premiſes. Rats, mice, birds, fell a victim to him, and helped towards his ſupport; cats and dogs found him their greateſt enemy; he even would attack a man, if he was a ſtranger, except Mr Jones, who was the head gardener, was with him. This he would continue to do for two or three days, till the bird began to know him. I have heard Mr Jones ſay, he would rather have him than the beſt dog in the kingdom, as no creature of the earth or air was ſafe from his talons. What was very remarkable, he never paired with his own ſpecies, neither would he let one of them come near the premiſes, though ſeveral attempts have been made, and battles fought, when he always came off victorious. When I firſt went to Marſton, he has alarmed me more than once when I was in the garden, till he grew more uſed to me. His method was, when he ſaw a ſtranger, to ſoar upon the wing very high, and to take ſeveral circuits till he got perpendicular above him, when he would drop down upon his head like a ſtone, frequently ſtunning the perſon. This he could eaſily effect, as a ſtranger could not be expected to be on his guard, if he even ſaw him flying above him. I have been obliged to take ſhelter under a hovel or tree, upon the ſight of him, and quickly too, elſe I ſhould have felt the effects of his weight, velocity, and talons; but that was only when I firſt went, as I ſaid above: after a few days he ſeemed as if he recogniſed me, and offered hoſtilities no more. No ſtrangers cared to venture into the garden, without ſome one who belonged to it was with them.

Theſe two birds had evidently never been tamed, or in the hands of man, before they took poſſeſſion of their reſpective ſtations, as they had at firſt all the ferocity uſual to birds of prey. J. M.

Gent. Mag.

OC-

OCCASIONAL PROLOGUE.

Intended to have been ſpoken before their Majeſties at Richmond houſe, by the Manager.

WHAT though the *Commons*, in a teſty fit,
To thwart my projects, diſagreed with PITT,
And bade this fav'rite all his favor ſee
Loſt in the hatred which prevail'd for me;
Tho' booby 'Squires in hoſtile phalanx form'd,
Urg'd on by BASTARD, my entrenchments ſtorm'd
While figures ſuch as 'Squires not often reach,
Dane'd in Confuſion through their Leader's ſpeech;
Though LANSDOWN cenſur'd, when from pow'r remov'd,
The plan which LANSDOWN had in pow'r approv'd;
Though FOX forgot what he to kindred ow'd,
And ſwith'd the *hobby horſe* an *Uncle* rode;
Though *data* drawn with Jeſuits' crafty lore,
Expos'd by SHERIDAN, could cheat no more:
Though CORNWALL, loth to fight againſt a ſtream,
Damn'd with his negative my darling ſcheme;
Yet truſt me, Friends, renew'd in diſtant climes,
That darling ſcheme but waits for happier times,
When *Britain's* ſhores, encompaſs'd round about
With breaſt-work, baſtion, rav'lin, and redoubt,
No more ſhall ſmile on the ſurrounding flood,
Or truſt their ſafety to her walls of wood:
Mean-while with inoffenſive buildings, here,
In my own houſe I play the Engineer;
And doom'd to curb my fortifying rage,
Confine my talents to this narrow ſtage.
Yet why repine?—our own immortal bard
The world has aptly to a ſtage compar'd,
Where all adopt the Actor's mimic arts,
And *one man in his time plays many parts.*
In this myſelf may prove the emblem juſt,
"Can none remember? Yes! I'm ſure all muſt,—
"When *Oppoſition*, like a raging ſtorm,
"In my harangues aſſum'd her bitt'reſt form,—
"When pale DUNDAS foreboded NORTH's defeat,
"And SACKVILLE trembled on the Treaſ'ry ſeat—
"When PITTS and GRENVILLES join'd the conq'ror's car,
"And SHELBURNE's *Heſſians* ſhar'd the ſpoils of war;
"When TOMMY TOWNSHEND in our ranks look'd big,
"And I myſelf appear'd—a flaming *Whig*."
Irreverend once, unaw'd by regal pow'r,
When ſpleen had turn'd my milky temper ſour,
I dar'd to treat with looſe unhallow'd mirth,
The ſacred day which gave our Sov'reign birth;
Bleſt day!—which never for a ſong ſhall lack
While *Maudlin Muſes* love the taſte of *ſack*;
Whoſe praiſe ſhall live in many a Laureat lay,
In ſpite of all ill-manner'd proſe may ſay.
More loyal grown, more loyal ſtrains we ſing,
"*There is a play to-night before the King*,"
Where he who late aſſum'd theſe ſaucy airs,
Is proud to light him up and down the ſtairs.
O happy change!—as ſinners cleans'd in Heav'n,
Repentant patriots are at Court forgiv'n;
Who ſee their folly, and no more withſtand,
Reveal'd by HAWKESBURY, the King's command—
Regen'rate now, who, tho' in error born,
Hail him their Leader who was once his ſcorn;
Far happier ſure, ſince ſitting by his ſide,
They truſt their conduct to ſo ſure a guide;
Still happier could they, but to veil their ſhame,
Conceal—that JENKINSON was once his name.
One ſerious grievance let me now reveal—
I find theſe buildings coſt a dev'liſh deal;
And hence have late conceiv'd a ſhrew'd device
T' enjoy my paſtime and elude the price.—
A corps complete, of twice three hundred men,
All well-grown *carpenters* of five foot ten,
At my command ſix days ſhall work their fill,
And reſt the ſeventh—to attend the drill.—
To this, ſo vaſt their confidence in PITT,
The ſoften'd *Commons* will, I truſt, ſubmit;—
So ſhall theſe Dupes their dup'd conſtituents rob,
And *Weſtern wiſe-acres* promote the job!
Now farewel all;—for eyes and ears at leaſt,
This night your Manager provides a feaſt—
But mark me well, *Economy*'s the plan;
The frugal feaſt muſt end as it began;—
And ſo, good friends, good night!—we all ſup—Where we can!

Written at one of the Hermitages at Montſerrat in Spain.

By T. CLIO RICKMAN, in 1785.

HERE rais'd 'bove earth, and all that earth can give,
"The world forgetting, by the world forgot;"
Sequeſter'd from the haunts of men you live,
And angels guard, and bleſs your ſacred lot.
With pitying eye you view the ſcenes below,
The while remembrance wakes the guſhing tear;
Ah! 'tis indeed a world of pain and woe,
And Heav'n was kind to guide your footſteps here.

The

The pageantry of grandeur, ſtate, and wealth,
And all the idle buſtle of the throng;
Commerce impure, and proſtituted health,
Ah! none of theſe to your retreat belong.
Here, with yourſelves converſing day by day,
A bleeding Saviour ever in your ſight;
Your ſouls from this bleſt manſion ſoar away,
And t'wards their native regions take their flight.
To this Heaven-ſculptur'd rock, and ye good men,
Reluctantly the bard's adieu is given;
With heavy heart he joins the world again,
For *Montſerrat* is but one ſtep from *Heaven*.

FRAGMENTS, *imitated from the Greek.*

By R CUMBERLAND, Eſq.

From FUBULUS.

THREE cups of wine a prudent man may take;
The firſt of theſe for conſtitution's ſake;
The ſecond to the girl he loves the beſt;
The third and laſt to lull him to his reſt,
Then home to bed! But if a fourth he pours,
That is the cup of folly, and not ours;
Loud noiſy talking on the fifth attends;
The ſixth breeds feuds and falling out of friends;
Seven beget blows and faces ſtain'd with gore;
Eight, and the watch-patrole breaks ope the door;
Mad with the ninth, another cup goes round,
And the ſwill'd ſot drops ſenſeleſs to the ground.

From THEOPHILUS.

If love be folly, as the Schools would prove,
The man muſt loſe his wits who falls in love;
Deny him love, you doom the wretch to death,
And then it follows he muſt loſe his breath.
Good ſooth! there is a young and dainty maid
I dearly love, a minſtrel the by trade;
What then? Muſt I defer to pedant rule,
And own that love transforms me to a fool?
No! I? ſo help me! By the Gods I ſwear,
The nymph I love is faireſt of the fair;
Wiſe, witty, dearer to her poet's ſight,
Than piles of money on an author's night.
Muſt I not love her then? Let the dull ſot
Who made the law, obey it! I will not.

Pray good SIR, *pleaſe to inſert the following Lamentation, to pleaſe*

POOR BROKEN-HEARTED DAMON.

BRUNETTA refuſes my kiſs,
Who late was ſo loving and kind.
Fly, Zephyr, and tell the ſweet Miſs,
Ah! tell her——*we're both of a mind.*
If we're left but a moment alone,
She flies with impatience away,
'Tis cruel to fly, I muſt own——
——But *'twere vaſtly more cruel to ſtay.*
Scarce aſk'd ſhe reſign'd up her charms.
I lov'd her *becauſe I hate trouble.*
Now ſhe drives me, (ſweet nymph!) from her arms,
My love and my tranſports are double.
In my arms ſhe would languiſh and melt——
I felt a dull kind of a joy:
But *what were the raptures I felt,*
When *firſt ſhe began to grow coy!*

To the charmer my mournful farewell,
Ye Echoes and Zephyrs, convey:
For *Zephyrs and Echoes may* tell
What *I cannot ſo civilly* ſay,
Forbid her for Damon to mourn,
For *Damon is heartily* glad;
But ſay, ſhould her fondneſs return,
I ſhall die, or run off, or run mad.
Gent. Mag.

By Dr Johnſon and Mrs Piozzi.

ALL men, throughout the peopled earth,
From one ſublime beginning ſpring:
All from one ſource derive their birth,
The ſame their parent and their king.

At his command proud Titan glows,
And Luna lifts her horn on high;
His hand this earth on man beſtows,
And ſtrews with ſtars the ſpangled ſky.

From her high ſeats he drew the ſoul,
And in this earthly cage confin'd;
To wond'ring worlds produc'd the whole,
Eſſence divine with matter join'd.

Since then alike all men derive
From God himſelf their noble race,
Why ſhould the witleſs mortals ſtrive
For vulgar anceſtry and place?

Why boaſt their birth before his eyes,
Who holds no human creature mean;
Save him whoſe ſoul, enſlav'd to vice,
Deſerts her nobler origin?

* *The lines printed in Italics were written by Mrs Piozzi.*

SONNET *on an* AIR BALLOON.

By Mrs PIOZZI.

IN empty ſpace, behold me hurl'd,
The ſport and wonder of the world;
With eager gaze, while I aſpire,
Expanded with aerial fire!

And ſince Man's ſelfiſh race demands
More empire than the Sea's or Land's;
For him, my Courage mounts the Skies,
Invoking nature while I riſe!

Mother of all! if thus refin'd,
My flights can BENEFIT MANKIND;
Let them by me new realms prepare,
And take poſſeſſion of the Air.

But if to ILLS alone I lead,—
Quickly, oh quick, let me recede!
Or blaze, a ſplendid exhibition,
A BEACON, for their MAD AMBITION!

H.

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

ITALY.

Rome, Feb. 13. The teſtament of the deceaſed Count of Albany having been opened, it was found that he had left his daughter, the Ducheſs of Albany, his ſole heir, who had been declared legitimate by a deed recorded in the regiſter of the parliament of Paris, the 6th September 1787, with the approbation of the King of France, and the Count de Vergennes, his miniſter for foreign affairs.

The Cardinal Duke of York, brother of the illuſtrious defunct, had, in 1784, made a proteſtation reſpecting his pretenſions to the crown of England, in caſe his brother, the Count of Albany, ſhould die before him. The following is a copy of that declaration, a copy of which has been put into the hands of the Pope, foreign Miniſters, Cardinals, &c.

Copia ſimplex Inſtrumenti apertionis ſolii Declarationis, Rogat. per acta Cataldi, Curiæ Capitolinæ notarii, die trigeſima prima Januarii, 1788.

"WE Henry-Mary Benoit Clement, Cardinal Duke of York, younger ſon of James III. King of England: Whereas, by advice received from Florence, of date the 23d January current, we are on the point of loſing the moſt ſerene Charles Edward, our very dear brother-german, lawful ſucceſſor of James III. to the kingdoms of England, *France*, Scotland, and Ireland, &c. We declare and proteſt, in the moſt legal form, with all the ſolemnities poſſible, and in every other way that may be of utility and advantage, as in duty bound to our Royal perſon, and to our country, to reclaim to ourſelves the right of ſucceſſion belonging to us to the kingdoms of England, &c. &c. in caſe our moſt ſerene Brother (which God forbid) ſhould be no more; againſt which cannot be oppoſed, either before God, or before men, the ſacred epiſcopal character with which we are clothed.

And whereas, in conſideration of the critical circumſtances of our Royal Family, we wiſh to obviate every difficulty that might give us trouble, we mean ſtill to retain the title (which in that event no longer belongs to us) of Duke of York, with all the rights thereto annexed, as we have hitherto been in uſe to do, and that as a title of *incognito*. For this purpoſe, we renew every neceſſary proteſtation and declaration, in the manner foreſaid, and with all poſſible ſolemnities, That, in retaining (as we do of our own will, and by way of *incognito*) the title of Cardinal Duke of York, in ſimilar deeds, either public or private, which we have paſſed, or ſhall paſs, after having obtained the foreſaid right of ſucceſſion, we do not prejudice, much leſs ever renounce our right, and that which we have, and mean to have and retain always, to the foreſaid kingdoms more eſpecially, which belong to us, as the true, laſt, and lawful heir of our Royal Family, notwithſtanding the foreſaid title, which we are pleaſed to retain as a ſimple *incognito*. Laſtly, We expreſsly declare by the preſent proteſt, our will is, that, as ſoon as Providence ſhall have diſpoſed of our perſon, the rights of ſucceſſion to the crown of England, &c. ſhould remain in their full force and ſtrength, with the Prince to whom the right ſhall belong by proximity of blood.

Such being our will, &c. *From the Palace of our reſidence, Jan.* 27. 1784.

HENRY, Cardinal," &c.

The above proteſt being the ſame day put under a cover, and ſealed up, was depoſited in the hands of M. Cataldi, notary, to be opened agreeably to the requiſition of his Eminence, which was accordingly done the 31ſt January foreſaid, when this declaration having been acknowledged, was read.

FRANCE.

The parliament of Paris, as well as ſeveral of the provincial parliaments in France, have ſtepped forth on former occaſions with much zeal and activity in defence of their rights and liberties. Their firmneſs has been the echo and admiration of all Europe; but on no occaſion has it ventured on ſuch a bold addreſs to the Sovereign as lately on the ſubject of *Lettres de Cachet*. The language of which is throughout nervous and energetic.

The memorial is of conſiderable length. It declares, that the uſe of *Lettres de Cachet*, and every other mandate of the King which tends to deprive a citizen of his liberty, without being tried by a court of judicature, is contrary to the laws and conſtitution of the kingdom.

The concluſion runs thus:—

"It is now high time that this abuſe ſhould have an end: the nation demands its liberties,—it has the right to obtain them, and parliament in this inſtance

is

is only the organ of the people at large. We do not ſolicit the repeal of the orders your Majeſty has iſſued againſt his Highneſs the Duke of Orleans and the other two magiſtrates; we do not ſolicit their liberty as being a Prince and magiſtrates, but rather demand it as being citizens, Frenchmen, and men."

The following is the Anſwer of the French King to the above:

"*March* 11*th* 1788.

"I forbade you on a former occaſion to follow up your repreſentation of the 9th of January laſt, and I now acquaint you, that a reſiſtance to my commands is not the means to obtain the releaſe of the magiſtrates whom I have thought fit to puniſh.

I have nothing further to add to my laſt anſwer; I have already told you, that the liberty of my ſubjects was as dear to me as to themſelves; but I will never permit my parliament to reſiſt the exercile of a power to which families have often owed the preſervation of their honour, and the ſtate, public tranquillity.

My parliament ought to ſubmit with reſpect and in ſilence to whatever my wiſdom judges proper.

I laſtly forbid you to renew your deliberations on this ſubject."

AMERICA.

The following is the ſpeech of Dr Franklin, to the preſident of the late continental convention, immediately before ſigning the propoſed conſtitution. [vol. 49. p. 588.]

"I confeſs that I do not entirely approve of this conſtitution at preſent; but, Sir, I am not ſure I ſhall never approve it: for, having lived long, I have experienced many inſtances of being obliged, by better information or fuller conſideration, to change opinions, even on important ſubjects, which I once thought right, but found to be otherwiſe. It is therefore that, the older I grow, the more apt I am to doubt my own judgement, and to pay more reſpect to the judgement of others. Moſt men indeed, as well as moſt ſects in religion, think themſelves in poſſeſſion of all truth; and that, where-ever others differ from them, it is ſo far error. Steel, a Proteſtant, [rather Hoadly], in a dedication, tells the Pope, that the only difference between our two churches, in their opinions of the certainty of their doctrine, is, the Romiſh church is infallible, and the church of England is never in the wrong. But though many private perſons think almoſt as highly of their own infallibility as that of their ſect, few expreſs it ſo naturally as a certain French lady, who, in a little diſpute with her ſiſter, ſaid, "I don't know how it happens, ſiſter, but I meet with no body but myſelf that is always in the right."

In theſe ſentiments, Sir, I agree to this conſtitution, with all its faults, if they are ſuch; becauſe I think a general government neceſſary for us, and there is no form of government but what may be a bleſſing to the people, if well adminiſtered; and I believe farther, that this is likely to be well adminiſtered for a courſe of years, and can only end in deſpotiſm, as other forms have done before it, when the people ſhall become ſo corrupted as to need deſpotic government, being incapable of any other.

I doubt too whether any other convention we can obtain may be able to make a better conſtitution. For when you aſſemble a number of men, to have the advantage of their joint wiſdom, you inevitably aſſemble with thoſe men, all their prejudices, their paſſions, their errors of opinion, their local intereſts, and their ſelfiſh views. From ſuch an aſſembly, can a perfect production be expected? It therefore aſtoniſhes me, Sir, to find this ſyſtem approaching ſo near to perfection as it does. And I think it will aſtoniſh our enemies, who are waiting with confidence to hear that our councils are confounded like thoſe of the builders of Babel, and that our ſenators are on the point of ſeparation, only to meet hereafter for the purpoſe of cutting one another's throats. Thus I conſent, Sir, to this conſtitution, becauſe I expect no other, and becauſe I am not ſure that it is not the beſt. The opinions I have had of its error, I ſacrifice to the public good. I have never whiſpered a ſyllable of them abroad. Within theſe walls they were born, and here they ſhall die. If every one of us, in returning to our conſtituents, were to repeat the objections he had had to it, and endeavour to gain partiſans in ſupport of them, we might prevent its being generally received, and thereby loſe all the ſalutary effects and great advantages reſulting naturally in our favour among foreign nations, as well as among ourſelves, from our real or apparent unanimity. Much of the ſtrength and efficacy of any government, in procuring

curing and ſecuring happineſs to the people, depends on opinion, on the general opinion of the goodneſs of that government, as well as of the wiſdom and integrity of its governors. I hope therefore, that for our own ſakes, as a part of the people, and for the ſake of our poſterity, we ſhall act heartily and unanimouſly in recommending this conſtitution, where-ever our influence may extend, and turn our future thoughts and endeavours to the means of having it well adminiſtered.

On the whole, Sir, I cannot help expreſſing a wiſh, that every member of the convention, who may ſtill have objections to it, would, with me, on this occaſion, doubt a little of his own infallibility, and to make manifeſt our unanimity, put his name to this inſtrument."

ENGLAND.

On Feb. 6. the ſeſſions ended at the Old Bailey, when 14 convicts received judgement of death, 48 were ordered to be tranſported, nine to be impriſoned and kept to hard labour in the houſe of correction, 14 to be publicly whipped, three to be impriſoned in Newgate, and 20 were diſcharged by proclamation.

London, March 6. A catalogue has lately been publiſhed, of duplicates of coins, medals, and books in the Britiſh Muſeum, which are to be ſold. Among theſe are to be found many rare and valuable articles. There are ſome who are faſtidious enough to raiſe objections to this meaſure, but ſurely without ſufficient reaſon. They aſſert that it may probably deter individuals in future from leaving any thing of value to Muſeums and Libraries, as no man would chuſe to have what he may leave in this manner hereafter diſpoſed of to any common purchaſer. The anſwer to this is obvious; he who gives any thing to a ſociety cannot be ſuppoſed to have any better motive than the advantage of that ſociety. This is as apparently promoted by the meaſure in queſtion as by any that can be adopted. Duplicates are of no benefit to any collection; but the converting them into caſh enables the managers or proprietors to obtain what they did not poſſeſs before, and what may be eſſentially neceſſary to their purpoſes. About 14 years ſince a ſimilar ſale of the Muſeum duplicates took place, and the money produced was expended to the greateſt poſſible advantage.

On Thurſday, March 20. there was a half-yearly general court of the proprietors of the Bank of England ſtock, the moſt numerous and reſpectable known for many years, on account of the general expectation of an increaſe of dividend. After the clerk had, as uſual, read over the minutes of the laſt meeting, the governor acquainted the proprietors, "that as this was a half-yearly court, when the dividend was uſually declared, it was the unanimous opinion of the directors, that the next half yearly dividend, ending the 25th inſt. ſhould be three pounds ten ſhillings," which makes an increaſe on the dividend of that ſtock at the rate of one per cent. Some cuſtomary by-laws being then read, Mr Stock roſe, and obſerved, "that however ſatisfactory ſuch a declaration, coming from the chair, might be to many proprietors and ſpeculators in Bank ſtock, it was not ſufficiently ſo to him, as he was ſtill unacquainted with the principle on which the directors proceeded; he ſaid it was impoſſible for him, ſtanding as a proprietor, excluded from the knowledge of the general accounts of the company, to give his aſſent or diſſent to the propoſition; the only method to direct his judgement, as well as the judgement of the proprietors in general, was to have the accounts laid before them, as the charters of the company, the 12th by-law, and the nature of all ſuch copartneries, required. He therefore thought that ſuch a declaration coming from the directors, without giving the proprietors ſuch previous information, was an inſult upon their underſtandings, and treating them as men incompetent to judge of their own affairs. This aſſumption of the court of directors, he ſaid, did not ſtop here, it went to the whole of their conduct. Their election of one another into the direction depended likewiſe on their own management, when the proprietors were called together, *pro forma*, to echo the reſult of their deliberations. He contended ſtrongly on the impropriety of theſe meaſures, and ſaid they were *prima facie* in the teeth of the charter and by-laws, and contrary to the uſage of any other private or public partneriſhip whatever. He aſked, on a ſuppoſition of loſs to the company, whether the proprietors would not be called together to make ſuch loſs good? Undoubtedly, he ſaid, they would; and the nature of all partneriſhips demanded it; and here, in all probability, ſuch accounts would be laid before them, to prove how

ſuch a loſs was incurred. It then, continues he, this right belongs to the proprietor in one inſtance, undoubtedly it belongs to him in another; and it is impoſſible for him to ſay whether he is gaining or loſing on his capital, whilſt that capital is exercited by others, independent of his inſpection." Mr Stock went into a good deal of ſtrong reaſoning on this ſubject, diſclaiming at the ſame time any other motive than that of a defence of his own rights, and the rights of the proprietors at large. To this, however, no other anſwer was given, than acceding to the reſolution of the directors; which being followed by a vote of thanks for attentive and good management, the court adjourned.

However ſecret the reſolutions of the Bank in the above buſineſs were kept, one way or other, ſums to a very conſiderable amount of Bank ſtock were bought on Thurſday morning, by which ſome people cleared very large ſums.

State of the London Hoſpitals laſt year.

Chriſt's Hoſpital.

Children put forth apprentices,	167
buried, - - -	3
now in the Hoſpital,	1040
to be admitted on preſentations at this time,	160
Total 1370	

St Bartholomew's Hoſpital.

Cured and diſcharged, In-patients,	3836
Out patients,	7104
Buried, - - -	340
Remaining, In patients, - -	435
Out-patients, -	161
Total 11876	

St Thomas's Hoſpital.

Cured and diſcharged, In-patients,	2779
Out-patients,	5188
Buried, - - -	208
Remaining, In patients, -	434
Out-patients, -	207
Total 8816	

Bridewell Hoſpital.

Vagrants, &c. relieved, -	865
Maintained and brought up to trades,	32
Total 897	

Bethlem Hoſpital.

Lunatics cured, and diſcharged,	205
Buried,	12
Remaining,	282
Total 499	

A royal proclamation, dated March 22. was publiſhed, recalling Britiſh ſeamen employed in foreign ſervice.

SCOTLAND.

The Faculty of Advocates have ordered a donation of 500l. for the uſe of the Charity Workhouſe of Edinburgh.

On Friday, Feb. 22. and Saturday the 23. during the high tide and great ſea, the addition to the pier of St Andrew's, which was lately erected at a conſiderable expence, fell down into the channel of the harbour, which rendered it very unſafe for ſhipping to go out or into port without a pilot.

The following melancholy accident happened in a coal-pit, in the pariſh of Campſie, in the lands of Beneclough, belonging to Sir Archibald Edmonſton of Duntreath, Bt. about nine miles north from Glaſgow, on Feb. 25. Three colliers went down the pit in the morning, with the view of making an opening into an old waſte, wherein they ſuſpected to find a quantity of water, which, upon opening the waſte, accordingly they did. The water came ſlowly forward to the bottom of the pit, when two more young men went down out of curioſity to ſee the water let out. Immediately after they went down, the water came out in a great quantity, which run up the pit two or three yards, but immediately ſubſided, when the pit filled with bad air, and they all periſhed.

A garden at Glaſgow, which belonged to and lies immediately behind Hutchiſon's Hoſpital, was lately ſold for building upon, at 2990l Sterling, which is at the rate of 11s. per ſquare yard!

On March 7. the Court of Seſſion determined an important queſtion, reſpecting a freehold-qualification.

The caſe was as follows: At the election of a member of parliament for Fife, in July laſt, Mr Henry Lindſay claimed to be inrolled as a freeholder upon a charter of the barony of Wormiſton, belonging to his brother Mr Bethune of Kilconquhar, and upon a conveyance of that charter, and of a part of the ſaid barony, of the proper valuation, granted by Mr Bethune to him in liferent, upon which he ſtood infeft.

Mr Dryſdale objected to Mr Lindſay's being inrolled, on the ground, that the property of the barony of Wormiſton having been feued out by Mr Bethune to a friend (recently before expeding the charter) under condition of its being redilponed, it was plain it was done on purpoſe to ſeparate the property from the ſuperiority, in order that the liferent of a bare ſuperiority, diveſted of every beneficial intereſt, might be given to Mr Lindſay, with the view of increaſing Mr Bethune's political influence: that

that ſuch qualifications were nominal and fictitious, and that the Court of Seſſion had lately rejected claims founded on ſimilar titles.

It was ſaid, on the one hand, that though the lands for which Mr Lindſay claimed his vote, were worth 100l. per annum, yet Mr Lindſay's intereſt in them was only 2s. 6d. - that it was a fictitious conveyance to elude the law; that the expence of making the titles and the expence of this proceſs was defrayed by Mr Bethune; and that it was clearly a nominal vote, as Mr Lindſay would reckon himſelf bound in honour to vote as his brother ſhould direct. On the other hand, it was ſaid, that there was no law depriving thoſe acquiring eſtates gratuitouſly, of the right of voting; that Mr Lindſay conſidered the eſtate in the ſame light as if he had purchaſed it or received it by deſcent, and found himſelf at perfect liberty to vote as he thought proper.

In this ſhape the preciſe queſtion, of the validity of a voter on a liferent-right of a bare ſuperiority, diveſted of every ſpecialty, came to be judged of by the Court; when, after a very full diſcuſſion, they found, that Mr Lindſay's titles were ſufficient; and he was accordingly appointed to be admitted on the roll. It was the opinion of a majority of their Lordſhips, that as titles ſuch as thoſe claimed on had met with ſupport, both in the Court of Seſſion and the Houſe of Peers, the public had been led to give reliance on the law, as explained by theſe deciſions: that though a rectification of the election-laws might be deſirable, it was not their Lordſhips province to make new laws; that if the deciſions given in multitudes of ſimilar caſes, which had been tried on former occaſions, were to be altered, it would leave the country in ſuch a ſtate of confuſion and uncertainty, as might have very fatal effects.

Monday, March 10. came on before the High Court of Juſticiary, the trial of John Stewart, journeyman weaver in Glaſgow, indicted for being concerned in the riots which took place there in the month of September laſt; [vol. 49. p. 465.] and particularly for having attacked John Anderſon, one of the town officers of Glaſgow, in the afternoon of the 3d of that month, when accompanying the magiſtrates of that city in the execution of their duty, in endeavouring to diſperſe the mob; and of having knocked down the ſaid John Anderſon to the ground, and beating and bruiſing him, or keeping him down by violence, when he was reſcued out of his hands by the Convener of the Trades of Glaſgow, and another perſon, who cauſed the pannel to be taken to the priſon of Glaſgow. The counſel for the pannel acknowledged that he was in the mob, but that he was drawn there by idle curioſity; and ſo far was he from knocking down or maltreating Mr Anderſon, as ſtated in the indictment, that Anderſon, without any provocation whatever, knocked the pannel down, and uſed him in a moſt cruel manner. The libel was found relevant to infer the pains of law. The witneſſes were then examined, and the jury afterwards incloſed, who returned their verdict next day, finding, by a great majority, the pannel Not Guilty. The uſual ſentence was pronounced by the Court, aſſoilzieing the pannel *ſimpliciter*, and diſmiſſing him from the bar; previous to which the Lord Juſtice-Clerk addreſſed him in a few words, informing him of the great danger which attended the mingling with a mob upon any pretence whatever; hoped that this would be a warning to him to avoid any interference of the kind in future; for though he had now been acquitted by a verdict of his country, yet it was not an unanimous one; and, if ever he ſhould be again arraigned for a like crime, the verdict of another jury might ſtrike very deep againſt him.

The Court, March 12. were to proceed on the trial of Andrew Strathern, maſter of the ſhip called the Empreſs of all the Ruſſias, indicted at the inſtance of his Majeſty's Advocate, for the crime of enticing and carrying away artificers from this kingdom to foreign countries. Strathern did not make his appearance, and ſentence of fugitation was pronounced againſt him.

On Friday March 15. Iſabel Tait, indicted for child-murder, having petitioned for baniſhment, and the advocate-depute conſenting, the Court ſentenced her to be baniſhed Scotland for life, and allowed her to the 1ſt of June to leave the kingdom.

The following remarkable inſtance of a ſingular interpoſition of providence, lately happened at Woodſide, about two miles from Glaſgow:—A young woman from the country having come to attend her ſiſter-in-law, who had not recovered from child bed, being at a neighbouring houſe with the child, was returning

home to her brother's houſe about eight o'clock at night, and being a ſtranger in the place, and the night very dark, going along a bridge immediately above a cotton-mill, ſtopped ſhort, and with the infant of about four weeks old, fell over into the lade. Partly by the ſtruggle which ſhe made, and partly by the ſuction of a water courſe at the other ſide of the lade, at the diſtance of ten or twelve yards, which runs through below the cotton-mill, and drives a waſh mill juſt below it, ſhe was inſenſibly carried quite through under the cotton-mill, till ſhe was ſtopped by a grate placed above the wheel of the waſh-mill. By lying in this ſituation, ſhe became an obſtruction to the water, from the want of which the wheel was almoſt ſtopped. This occurrence alarmed the men who were at work in the mill, and made them run out to learn the cauſe. By this time the water had forced the woman from the grate, and violently toſſed her over a precipice, among a heap of large flat ſtones, which cut and mangled her face, and ſeveral parts of her body, in a ſhocking manner. After the men had come out, and being alarmed with the cry of murder, they inſtantly returned to the mill for a lanthorn, which guided them to the place where the poor ſufferer lay, who was almoſt at the point of death. By the help of a ladder, they went down a breach of ſeven or eight feet high, brought out the woman, and carried her to her brother's houſe. Her ſiſter-in-law was much alarmed at the accident, but infinitely more ſo, when ſhe miſſed her child. She inſtantly inquired concerning it of the unfortunate woman, who had ſcarcely power enough to tell her that it was in eternity. The condition of all preſent, but eſpecially of the mother, upon being thus informed, is eaſier conceived than expreſſed. The night being very dark, no one knew where to run in queſt of the infant. It however occurred to the men who relieved the woman, that it might likely be lying near the place where they fortunately found her, as the mill had been ſtopped in order to clear the place of the water. They accordingly went back with a light, and, after ſome little ſearch, found the child to all appearance dead. When they carried it to the houſe, it was judged to no purpoſe to uſe any means for its recovery, it having lain in the water about half an hour: but one of them, thinking an experiment neceſſary, called for ſome warm water: there happened to be none in the houſe at the time, but providentially a potful was procured from a near neighbour, into which they immediately immerſed the infant. This had the deſired effect, for ſigns of life were ſoon after diſcovered. By proper endeavours being uſed, both woman and child are in a fair way of doing well.

On Wedneſday, March 19. a ſharp conteſt took place at the back of the Black Rocks, near Leith harbour, between a boat's crew belonging to Newhaven and another belonging to Preſtonpans, occaſioned by the latter's dragging oyſters on the ground alledged to belong to the former. After a ſevere conflict for about half an hour, with their oars, boat-hooks, &c the Newhaven men brought in the Preſtonpans boat to Newhaven, after much hurt being received on both ſides. This is the ſecond Preſtonpans boat taken from them this ſeaſon, in the ſame manner, by the Newhaven fiſhermen.

Stirling, March 28. This day George Mackerrachar was executed here, for forgery. The Reverend Meſſ. Muſchet and Campbell attended him to the place of execution. His behaviour was ſuitable to one in his unhappy ſituation. After praying a few minutes with great fervour, and ſinging a part of the 73d Pſalm, he was launched into eternity, a little after two o'clock, in preſence of an immenſe crowd of ſpectators. He made no ſpeech or confeſſion—alledging that he died a victim to what he was now convinced was a crime againſt ſociety, but which he, and many others in this country, never looked upon in that light. His great conſolation, therefore, at the preſent awful moment, was, that however he might have been led aſtray by bad example, and the hopes of being able to retire his bills before they became due, he never had the moſt diſtant intention of defrauding any perſon.

BANKRUPTS.

Feb. 28. James Stein, diſtiller at Kilbagie.

29. John Stein, diſtiller at Kennerpans.

March 1. Robert Stein diſtiller at Kincaple.

1. James Scott, malſter in Tulliallan.

2 Daniel Cameron, merchant in Perth.

4 James Haig & Co. diſtillers at Cannonmills, and James Haig, the ſole remaining partner of ſaid company, as an individual.

4 John Haig, diſtiller at Cochrin.

4. John Buchanan & Co. merchants in Kincardine, and John Buchanan, Richard Philp,

Philp, and Thomas Smith, partners in ſaid company, as individuals.

5. James Craik, merchant and corn-dealer in Dundee.

6. William Chiene, ſhipmaſter and merchant in Craill.

7. Thomas Primroſe, maltſter and dealer in Alloa.

8. John Rankine & Son, merchants in Falkirk, and John Rankine ſenior and John Rankine junior, as individuals.

8 Meikle & Younger, merchants in Alloa, as a company, and George Meikle and James Young, as individuals.

8 Lamont & M'Intoſh, merchants in Greenock.

12. George Taylor, maltman and brewer in Stirling.

15. James Gilchriſt, currier in Falkirk.

15. John Smart, merchant in Falkirk.

19. John Dickie, merchant in Dunfermline.

19 James Welſh, ſhipbuilder in Grangemouth

20. Thomas Arnot, hoſier in Edinburgh.

20 Andrew Swinton, merchant in Inverkeithing

20. John Mill, brewer and baker in Tory.

21 Charles Hutton, ſhipmaſter and merchant in Culroſs.

22 Thomas Murdoch, piſtol-maker and ſpirit-dealer on Leith Walk.

27. Thomas Beveridge, merchant in Perth.

FIARS *for Crop* 1787.

County of Fife.

	Sterling.	s.	d.		*Sterling.*	s.	d.
Wheat per boll	19	0		Meal by meaſure	13	0	
Bear, -	11	6		Rye, -	10	0	
Oats, -	11	0		Peaſe and beans,	10	6	
Meal by weight	14	0		Malt, -	16	6	

Banffſhire.

The boll of wheat, - -	L.	0	18 0
The boll of beſt bear with fodder,	1	1	0
The boll of beſt bear, without fodder,	0	18	0
The boll of beſt oats, with fodder	0	16	8
The boll of beſt oats, without fodder,	0	14	0
The boll of ſecond bear, with ditto,	0	18	0
The boll of ſecond bear, without ditto,	0	15	0
The boll of ſecond oats, with ditto	0	13	4
The boll of ſecond oats, without ditto,	0	10	0
The boll of oatmeal, -	0	15	0
The boll of peaſe, -	0	15	0

Shire of Edinburgh.

Beſt wheat per boll, - -	L.	1	1 4
Blacked ditto, - -		1	0 0
Beſt Barley, - -		0	15 6
Blanded Bear, - -		0	13 6
Rough Bear, - -		0	12 6
Beſt Oats, - - -		0	13 4
Second Oats, - -		0	12 0
Beſt Oatmeal by weight, at eight ſtone per boll, - -		0	14 6
Peaſe, - - -		0	13 6

Commiſſariot of Glaſgow.

Oatmeal, 15 s. 10 d. per boll.—Bear 12 s. 5 d.

Commiſſariot of Hamilton and Campſie.

Oatmeal, 15 s. 6 d per boll.—Bear, 15 s. 5 d.

Archbiſhoprick of Glaſgow.

Oatmeal and Malt, 16 s. per boll. Bear. 13 s. 4 d.

Aberdeenſhire.

Great Oats with fodder,	L.	0	15 0
Ditto without fodder, -		0	13 4
Brocked Oats with fodder, -		0	12 0
Ditto without fodder, -		0	10 0
Small Oats with ditto, - -		0	10 0
Ditto without ditto, -		0	8 0
Bear with ditto, -		0	18 0
Ware Bear with ditto, -		0	15 0
Ditto without ditto, -		0	13 0
Farm or Market Meal without ditto,		0	16 0
White Meal, nine ſtone, -		0	15 6
Farm Meal, eight ſtone, -		0	13 4
Market Malt, - -		0	17 6
Peaſe, - -		0	13 4
Wheat, - -		0	18 0
Rye, - -		0	13 0

Kincardineſhire.

The boll of Oatmeal, -	L.	0	13 0
White Oats with fodder, -		0	15 0
Ditto without ditto, - -		0	13 4
Brocked Oats with ditto, -		0	11 8
Ditto without ditto, -		0	9 6
Bear with ditto, - -		0	15 0
Ditto without ditto, -		0	13 0
Peaſe with ditto, -		0	17 8
Ditto without ditto, -		0	14 0
Wheat, - -		0	18 0

Eaſt Lothian.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	21 s. 4¾ d.	20 s. 8¼ d.	20 s. 1¼ d.
Barley,	17 0	16 3¼	15 1½
Oats,	14 0¾	13 4	12 7½
Peaſe,	13 10	12 9½	11 10¼

Perthſhire.

Scots.	*L.*	*s*	*Scots.*	*L.*	*s.*
Beſt Wheat,	12	12	Second ditto,	6	18
Second ditto,	11	14	Peaſe	6	12
Beſt Bear,	8	8	Rye,	7	16
Second ditto,	7	10	Meal by weight,	8	8
Beſt Oats,	7	16	Dittobymeaſure,	8	18

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 11. At Leguinea, near Kingſton, Jamaica, Alexander Robertſon, Eſq; naval officer there, to Miſs Sinclair of Durran, from Scotland.

March 6. By ſpecial licence, at Lord Macdonald's houſe, in George's ſtreet, Hanover ſquare, London, by the Biſhop of Landaff, Sir John Sinclair of Ulbſter, Bt, M. P. to the Hon. Miſs Macdonald.

8. At

8. At the Countefs of Errol's houfe, Edinburgh, the Earl of Glafgow to the Rt Hon. Lady Auguſta Hay, 3d daughter of the late Earl of Errol.

25 At Auchmacoy, in Aberdeenſhire, Mr James Watſon clerk to the ſignet to Miſs Nicholas Buchan, youngeſt daughter of the late Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy, Eſq;

Lately, at Edinburgh, John Neſbit, Eſq; of Kinoghan, Meath county Ireland, to Miſs Mary Laidlow, daughter of the late Walter Laidlow of Hundleſhope, Eſq;

BIRTHS.

Copenhagen, Feb. 19. Her Royal Highneſs Princeſs Frederica of a Princeſs, yeſterday morning. *Lond. Gaz.*

26. At London, Lady Kinnaird, of a ſon.

March 4. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Sir James Colquhoun of Luſs, Bt, of a daughter.

6. At the Plantation, near Guiſborough, Yorkſhire, the Lady of Lt Gen. Hale, of a ſon, being her 20th child, 19 of whom are now living.

10. At London, the Lady of Lord Macdonald, of a ſon.

17. At London, Mrs Dalh of Kenſington-ſquare, of a ſon and three daughters, who with the mother are all likely to do well.

21. At London, the Lady of Lord Biſton, of a ſon.

23. The Marchioneſs of Tweeddale, of a ſon.

23 At Edinburgh, the Lady of Admiral Duncan of a daughter.

24. At London, the Lady of Lord Louvaine, of a ſon.

DEATHS.

Feb. 19 At Rouen, in Normandy, David Lord Rofchill, eldeſt ſon of the Earl of Northeſk.

20. At Whiteriggs, James Leith of Whiteriggs, Eſq;

25. At the manſe of St Andrew's, in Orkney, the Rev. Mr John Scolly, miniſter of the united pariſhes of St Andrew's and Deerneſs.

26. At Caſtle Grant, Miſs Mary Sophia Grant, youngeſt daughter of Sir James Grant, of Grant, Bt.

26. At Futyvarth, James Macgregor, Eſq;

29. At Edinburgh, Miſs Lilias Melvill, eldeſt daughter of Major John Melvill of Cairnie.

At Marſeilles, whither he had gone for the benefit of his health, Mr Robert Milne, late writer in Edinburgh.

Lately, of a diſeaſe incident to ſedentary perſons, an obſtruction in his liver, M. Savary, author of *Les Lettres d'Egypte*. He was preparing a Dictionary and Grammar of the Arabian language. The ſevere remarks of other writers, and particularly Volney's, on his travels, had not a little ruffled his mind, and very likely accelerated his death. He was hardly forty years old.

March 3 At Edinburgh, in an advanced age, Mr John Robertſon writer.

3. At Edinburgh, Miſs Jean Cofnan, daughter of the late John Cofnan, Eſq; Secretary to his Majeſty's Cuſtoms and Salt-duties in Scotland

3. At Perth Mrs Helen Pearſon, relict of Capt Patrick Græme

3 At his houſe in Windſor Caſtle, Mr Edward Webb many years organiſt of his Majeſty's free chapel of St George.

4 At London, Lt-Gen. James Robertſon, Colonel of the 16th regiment of foot, and late Governor of New York.

5 At Edinburgh Dr George Rolland, 2d ſon of John Rolland Eſq; of Auchmuthie.

5 At his houſe of Jordanſtoun, Perthſhire, in his 78th year Admiral John Knight.

5 At London, aged 84 Audrey Lady Viſcountes Townſhend relict of the late Charles Viſcount Townſhend She was daughter and heireſs of Governor Harriſon, of Balls, in Hertfordſhire, who had been Governor of Madras. She lived to ſee her eldeſt ſon a Marquis, the Lady of her ſecond ſon a Peereſs in her own right (Lady Greenwich), her grandſon an Earl (Leiceſter), and her nephew a Peer (Lord Sydney)

5 At London, Col. Guy Johnſton, his Majeſty's ſuperintendant of the Indian Nations in North America.

7. At Buxton aged 121 years, Henrietta Long She uſed to ſell grey peaſe about the ſtreet of the city 70 years ago.

8. At London aged 75, Benjamin Carpenter, Eſq; general of his Majeſty's forces, colonel of the 4th regiment of dragoons, clerk marſhal of the Mews, and principal equerry to the King.—His ſpirits had been, for ſome little time paſt, ſo exceedingly depreſſed as to induce Dr Turton (who frequently viſited the General) to order the ſervants to watch very narrowly the motions of their maſter. Notwithſtanding this precaution, he eluded their vigilance, and, going from his houſe about five o'clock in the morning, into Hyde-park, took that opportunity to put a period to his exiſtence, in the Serpentine river. He was diſcovered by his hat being ſeen floating on the ſurface of the water, which occaſioned the river to be dragged, and about five o'clock in the evening the body was found; with ſeven guineas and a bunch of keys in his pockets.—No man had been a greater favourite with, nor enjoyed the ſmiles of his Sovereign more than Gen. C. By his merit alone he had raiſed himſelf from obſcurity to conſiderable rank and official dignity.—He was ſon of Col. C. who was killed at the head of the 3d regiment of guards, at the battle of Fontenoy.

May

May 11. 1745, leaving ſeven children. By his lady, who ſurvives him, and whoſe maiden name was Kerr, the General had a ſon, born 1759, ſince dead, and two daughters, both married.

9. At the manſe of Lyne, in the county of Peebles, the Rev. Mr Alexander Johnſton, who had been 60 years miniſter of that parith.

9. At Dundee, aged 90, James Guthrie of Craigie, Eſq;

9. At Dumfries, Mrs Mary Ferguſon of Ile.

10. At Walworth, in his 103d year, Mr Cromer.

11. At Mauchline, Mrs Chriſtian Wallace, daughter of the late Thomas Wallace, Eſq; of Cairnhill.

11. At the palace of Lambeth, after three days illneſs, aged 15 years, Miſs Moore, daughter of his Grace the Archbiſhop of Canterbury.

12. At Dumfries, James Ramſay of Drunguns, Eſq; Collector of Exciſe.

13. At Edinburgh, Thomas Cuming, Eſq; banker.

14. At London, Mr Grimaldi, ballet-maſter of Drury-lane theatre, deputy manager of the Royal Circus, dancing maſter, dentiſt, conjurer, clown at Sadler's Wells, and practitioner of phyſic.

15. At Taplow, Miſs Hamilton, daughter of the Hon. and Rev. George Hamilton, and niece of Lord Abercorn.

15. In France, in the 100th year of her age, Judith de Ligonier. She was born at Caſtres May 2 1688. She was couſin-german of General Ligonier, who diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the Engliſh ſervice, into which he entered at the age of fourteen. There is a nephew and a grand-nephew of the General now living at Caſtres.

16. At Perth, Mr Alexander Hunter, late merchant in London.

16. At Hempſtead, in Hertfordſhire, aged 114, Mrs Ann Clare, relict of Colonel Clare, who ſerved under the Duke of Marlborough, and was killed at the battle of Blenheim.

18. At Whitebank, Alexander Hay of Mordington, Eſq.

18. At Chicheſter, Capt. David Hay, of the royal navy.

18. In Newgate, Henry Sterne, known by the name of Gentleman Harry, a convict under ſentence of tranſportation for ſtealing a George ſet with diamonds, the property of the Duke of Beaufort.

19. At Edinburgh, Mrs Campbell of Blythſwood.

19. At Rammerſcales, Mr Blair Newall, 3d ſon of John Newall, Eſq; of Barſkeoch.

21. At Caſtle Grant, Dundas Charles Grant, youngeſt ſon of Sir James Grant of Grant, Bt.

21. At Holt Caſtle, within a few miles of Worceſter, aged near 100 years, the Counteſs Dowager of Coventry.

22. At London, Lt-Col. George Clerk.

22. At Irvine, John Morrice, Eſq; of Craig.

23. At Perth, in the 68th year of her age, Helen Ker, ſpouſe of Mr John Rutherford writer in Perth, and eldeſt daughter of the deceaſed Mr John Ker, profeſſor of humanity in the univerſity of Edinburgh.

24. At the manſe of Edzell, ſuddenly, the Rev. Mr David Millar, miniſter of that parith.

26. At his ſeat at Bramling, in his 81ſt year, Admiral Charles Knowles.

Lately, at the Obſervatory, Calton-hill, Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Short, optician.

Lately, in the parith of Galſton, Ayrſhire, Andrew Wilſon, a farmer, who was born in 1663, in the reign of Charles II. He remembered the battle of Ardmoſs, in the parith of Auchinleck, and of the dragoons ſearching his father's houſe after the battle for Mr Cargill. He went about till a day or two before his death, and retained his ſenſes to the laſt.

Lately, at Darnell, near Sheffield, aged 99, Mary Fletcher, widow. She was followed to the grave by three daughters, whoſe ages, added to the deceaſed, made 302.

Lately, aged 93, Mrs Hadwen of Yealand, near Lancaſter, one of the people called Quakers. She was born, reſided her whole life, and died in the ſame houſe.

Lately, the hoſtes of the White-Bear alehouſe, Spittalfields. She was ſuppoſed to be the largeſt woman of her time. Her coffin, notwithſtanding ſhe had kept her bed three weeks, meaſured four feet over the ſhoulders.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

March 1. to appoint Perkins Magra, Eſq; Agent and Conſul General at Tunis, in the room of James Crail, Eſq, deceaſed.

8. to appoint the Rt Hon. Sir James Harris, K. B. Ambaſſador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the States General of the United Provinces.

And William Gomm, Eſq; Secretary of embaſſy to their High Mightineſſes.

11. to recommend to the Dean and Chapter of Chriſt Church, in the Univerſity of Oxford, the Rt Rev. Dr Edward Smallwell Biſhop of St David's, to be by them elected Biſhop of Oxford, that ſee being void by the tranſlation of the Rt Rev. John late Biſhop thereof to the ſee of Hereford.

22. to grant to the Rt Rev. Dr John Douglas, Biſhop of Carliſle, the Deanry of the Chapel Royal in the Caſtle of Windſor, with the Deanry of Wolverhampton, and Regiſtry of the Knights of the Moſt Noble order of the Garter thereunto annexed, the ſame being

ing void by the death of the Rt Rev. and Hon. Dr John Harley, Biſhop of Hereford, late Dean thereof.

to recommend to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St Paul, London, the Rev. Richard Farmer, D D to be by them elected into the place of Canon Reſidentiary of the ſaid Cathedral church, in the room of Dr John Douglas, now Biſhop of Carliſle.

to preſent the Rev. William Roſs to the church or chapel of Cromarty, vacant by the tranſportation of the Rev Alexander Macadam to the church and pariſh of Nigg

to appoint Henry Charles Selwyn, Eſq: Lieutenant Governor of the iſland of Montſerrat in America, in the room of Gen. Benjamin Carpenter, deceaſed.

to appoint Jeremy Femberton, Eſq; chief juſtice of the province of Nova Scotia, in the room of Bryan Finucan, Eſq; deceaſed.

to appoint Tho. Walpole, Eſq; Miniſter Plenipotentiary to the Elector Palatine, to be Envoy Extraordinary to his Serene Highneſs.

Lord Chamberlain's office, March 8. On Friday, the 15th of laſt month, Hale Young Wortham, Eſq; was appointed Gentleman Uſher Daily Waiter in ordinary to his Majeſty, in the room of Sir William Fitzherbert, Bt, who has reſigned.

And on the ſame day Richard Byron, Eſq; was appointed Groom of his Majeſty's Privy Chamber, in ordinary, in the room of Hale Young Wortham, Eſq; promoted.

War-Office, March 1.

31ſt foot: Maj. William Cotton, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, by purchaſe, vice Jeremiah French.; Brev.-Maj. Charles Green, to be Major, by purchaſe, vice William Cotton.

Gabriel Stewart, Eſq; to be Governor of Portland Caſtle, vice John Tavor, deceaſed.

War office, March 15.

4th dragoons: Gen. John Lord Howard, to be Colonel, vice Benjamin Carpenter, deceaſed.

Capt Charles Lyons, Fort-Major of Halifax, to be Fort-Major and Barrack Maſter to the garriſon of st John's iſland, vice John Macdonald, who reſigns.

Capt.-Lieut. John Hodgſon, of the 4th foot, to be Fort-Major to the garriſon of Halifax, vice Charles Lyons.

Commiſſion ſigned by his Majeſty for the Army in Ireland; dated March 6.

18th foot: Maj.-Gen. the Hon. Thomas Bruce to be Colonel, vice Robertſon, deceaſed.

From other Papers.

His Grace the Duke of Queenſberry has preſented Mr William Marſhall, preacher of the goſpel, to the church and pariſh of Manner, in the preſbytery of Peebles.

March 1 The Hon Francis Garden, Eſq; of Gardenſton, one of the Senators of the College of Juſtice, was unanimouſly choſen Lord Rector of the Mariſchal College of Aberdeen; and George Moir, Eſq; of Scotstown, Dean of Faculty

Prices of Grain at Haddington, April 4.

	Beſt.	*Second*	*Third.*
Wheat,	22s. 6d.	22s. 0d	21s 6d.
Barley,	17s 0d.	16s. 6d	16s. 0d.
Oats,	13s. 6d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 6d.
Peaſe,	13s 0d.	12s. 6d.	12s. 0d.

Edinburgh, March 28. Oat-meal, 11½ d. Bear-meal, 8½ d Peaſe meal, 8½ d.

The Edinburgh Bill of Burials for March.

Burial places	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Grayfriars and Lady Yeſter's,	23	41	64
Weſt-kirk, -	26	33	59
Canongate, -	22	18	40
Calton, - -	23	15	38
Total,	94	107	201

Age.			Diſeaſes, &c	No
			Aged — —	26
Under	2	64	Aſthma — —	7
2 &	5	17	Bowelhive — —	17
5 &	10	12	Burnt — —	1
10 &	20	8	Childbed — —	1
20 &	30	17	Chincough — —	5
30 &	40	12	Cold — — —	1
40 &	50	6	Conſumption —	57
50 &	60	16	Cramp — —	1
60 &	70	28	Dropſy — —	3
70 &	80	15	Evil — —	2
80 &	90	5	Fever — —	29
90 &	100	1	Gravel — —	2
		—	Jaundice — —	2
		201	Killed by falls, &c.	2
			Meaſles —	4
			Rheumatic fever —	1
Increaſed		1	Smallpox — —	8
			Stillborn — —	7
			Suddenly — —	2
			Swelling —	1
			Teething — —	17
			Ulcer — —	1
			Water in head —	3
			Worms — —	1

Between

PRICES OF STOCKS, March 14.

Bank Stock, 163½
3 per cent. con 75½
5 per cent. Ann 1784, 113¾ a ⅞.
India Bonds, 90s. prem.
Lottery Tickets, 26l. 5s. a 10s.
Iriſh Tickets, 7l. 1s. a 7l.

March 31.

Bank Stock, ſhut, 176½ for the opening.
5 per cent. 113½ a ⅜ a ½.
3 per cent. conſ. 75⅝ a ½ a ⅝.
India Stock, ſhut, 175 a 174½ for opening.
India Bonds, 81s. prem.
Navy and victualling Bills, 1⅞ diſc.
Iriſh Tickets, 7l. 2s. 6d. a 7l. 4s.